



ONE RATES ARE ADVANCED

RATE OF 10 CENTS TO LAS AND INCREASE OF 50 CENTS TO MOST SUBSCRIBERS

Independence Telephone Co., Independence and Monmouth, has granted an increase in rates. Public Service commission, Independence, the monthly rental business phones has been advanced 50 cents and residence phones 25 cents with the exception of the two-party line which is 25 cents. Monmouth, the business phone is 25 cents and residence will continue at the same rate with the exception of the 10 party line, which is advanced 75 cents. This is an increase of 12 1/2 cents on rural lines. Reductions made in extension phones, Independence and Monmouth, 10 cent toll rate between Independence, Monmouth and Dallas City on a three minute call is also operative. The commission likewise permitted to limit service between Independence and Monmouth to three minutes with a charge of 10 cents for additional three minutes or thereof. New and old monthly rates are given:

INDEPENDENCE		
Limited Business Service		
	New	Old
Rate	Rate	
party line	\$3.50	\$3.00
party line	3.00	2.50
party sub. line	3.00	
line with bell	.90	1.25
line without bell	.75	1.00
line bell only	.15	.25
Limited Residence Service		
party line	\$2.00	\$2.50
party line	1.75	2.00
party line	1.50	1.50
party line (sub.)	1.75	1.50
line with bell	.65	1.25
line without bell	.50	1.00
line bell only	.15	.25
MONMOUTH		
Limited Business Service		
party line	\$2.75	\$2.50
party line	2.25	2.00
party line (sub.)	2.25	
line with bell	.90	1.00
line without bell	.75	
line bell only	.15	.25
Limited Residence Service		
party line	\$2.00	\$2.00
party line	1.75	1.75
party line	1.50	1.50
party sub. line	1.75	1.00
line with bell	.65	1.25
line without bell	.50	1.00
line bell only	.15	.25
line set add	25 cents	per
to above rates.		
Rural Service		
line switch		
per subscriber	\$.50	37 1/2
charge per		
magneto wall	3.00	
phone	.25	.25
commission in its statement		
in part:		
exchange are main-		
at Independence and Mon-		
mouth, by which business		
residence patrons and farmer		
are served. The two towns		
about two miles apart and are		
acted by a paved street and in-		
charge of service is now and al-		
ways been free. Owing to the		
city of the two towns and the		
community interests existing, ap-		
proach basis homes are built and		
ments made, there is an es-		
pecially good reason for continuing		
present arrangement. Each		
might equitably have the		
rates were it not for the fact		
Monmouth has a magneto sys-		
tem and Independence the modern		
system. However, in or-		
der to prevent the abuse of the fa-		
between the two towns con-		
should be reasonably re-		
duced by a nominal charge,		
the same exceed such free		
allowance as may be deter-		
mined as reasonable.		
same company owns, man-		
and operates the system at		
the county seat of Polk		
and Falls City. Owing to		
the diversity of the		
there should be a toll be-		
Monmouth and Independence		

as one group, and Dallas and Falls City as the other group.

It appears that there had been during the year past poor telephone service, part of which may be attributed to the irregular practice of subscribers calling by name instead of by number, and partly due to the obsolete switchboard that has recently been displaced by a new switchboard, which had been in operation less than 30 days when this hearing was held. Still another contributing factor to the poor service was the lack of close supervision of the personnel of the switchboard.

Some complaints of unsatisfactory service on the farmer lines were expressed but there will always be more or less dissatisfaction as long as there is a division of responsibility, i. e. the farmers maintaining the lines outside of the primary rate area and the company inside. No matter how well one section may be kept if another section gets out of order impairment of service is the natural result.

The commission finds that the Independence Telephone company is a corporation, organized and existing under the laws of Oregon, and a public utility as defined in Chapter 279 of the General Laws of Oregon for 1911, owning, operating and controlling exchanges in Independence and Monmouth, in the county of Polk, state of Oregon.

That the authorized capital of the applicant is \$20,000 of which \$4,700 is outstanding, bonds outstanding to the amount of \$9,850 bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, and a note for \$2,000 bearing interest at the rate of six per cent.

The utility upon complaint of the subscriber is required to facilities as will permit of fixing the responsibility for impaired service, keep a record thereof and report the result in writing to the complainant.

That in the absence of a fully qualified commercial representative stationed at either of these exchanges, such complaints as may arise in connection with the operation of a utility of this character, should be promptly transmitted to the manager's office at Dallas.

That the statements of revenues and expenses for the calendar year 1919 submitted in evidence reveal an actual deficit in meeting current expenses without regard to return on investment; that there has been a considerable increase in wages for both operators and linemen, and an increase in cost of materials; that the utility cannot properly maintain its system and render adequate service to its patrons if its receipts are insufficient to meet operating costs, including the prevailing scale of wages; that a public utility cannot obtain money to make extensions to its plant and afford additional service if its credit is impaired by lack of revenue.

For the purpose of brevity and to be definite and certain Independence and Monmouth will be called group 1 and Dallas and Falls City group 2. Between stations in group 1 and group 2 a rate of ten cents for the first three minutes and five cents for each additional three minutes will be charged.

Each farmer line shall be treated as a unit in the matter of collection of accounts for exchange service and shall be responsible for delinquents. All accounts shall be due and payable in equal semi-annual installments on or before January 15th and July 15th of each year. To facilitate the collection of accounts from members of the several farmer lines it is recommended that each line appoint a secretary or treasurer or other officer whose duty will be to make collections and account for same; further that each line discontinue service to any one of its members on its own line for non-payment of account.

That in connection with the free interchange of service between Independence and Monmouth exchange the utility shall be permitted, if it so desires, to limit each conversation to a three minute period without charge, with a charge of ten cents for each additional three minutes or fraction thereof beyond such initial period.

July 31st being the fifth Saturday of this month, the W. R. C. will have a social afternoon. A short program will be rendered. Everybody welcome.

NATIONAL GUARD BOYS BACK FROM CAMP LEWIS

Expressing themselves as having had a pleasant and profitable time, K-company's representation at Camp Lewis returned Tuesday evening, after an absence of 15 days. Owing to a pressure of private affairs neither Capt. Stidd nor Lieutenant Mix was able to attend the big gathering of military men. Those attending from here were: Ernest L. Chown, Grover Harris, Raymond Smith, E. T. Stewart, Cyrus Pervine, Robert Ballard, Arthur Ward and Ira Compton. From Monmouth, E. C. Cole, John D. Hinkle and Herbert B. Powell.

Arthur Ward easily carried off the honors in marksmanship in the company and secured fourth rank in the battalion. Part at 200 and the balance at 300 yards, he scored 81 shots out of 100 and made another record of 45 out of a possible 50.

Ward is only a young lad and seems destined to become a real crack shot. He has handled a gun almost since he was an infant. He is employed in the Farmers' State Bank.

The boys report that the only marring event of the encampment was the rifle explosion which resulted in the death of three Oregon guardsmen and injuries to four others. Investigation showed that the accident was due to the premature explosion of the shell.

NORTH DAKOTA OPENS STORE AT BUENA VISTA

Henry Turnbull of Hope, North Dakota, has opened a store at Buena Vista and it is expected that he will be appointed postmaster of the thriving little community. He has leased the Odd Fellows building and will carry a general line of merchandise. His brother, A. Turnbull, is interested with him and the firm name will be A. & H. Turnbull, the same as it is back in the Dakota town, but the brother will not take part in the business for the present at least.

Mr. Turnbull has a wife and four grown children and they will join him a little later. When failing health made it necessary for Mr. Turnbull to leave his business nearly four years ago he secured a berth as chief cook on the motor schooner, Laurel Whalen, which work he followed successfully until a short time ago. In this manner he visited many of the principal ports of the world. He has fully regained his health and is ready for business life once more.

Desiring a pleasanter climate than Dakota naturally he came to Ore-

gon. He is an old acquaintance of "Jiggs" Williams, who hails from the land of the big wheat fields and the Non-Partisan League.

CONGRESSMAN HAWLEY VISITS INDEPENDENCE

Congressman W. C. Hawley was in Independence Tuesday and Wednesday visiting with old friends and gave an interesting address at the Normal School Wednesday evening. Congressman Hawley is finding his political path literally strewn with roses. He was given a renomination by the republicans without opposition and there was no candidate on the democratic ticket. His district is designated as the first and is composed of Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, Tillamook, Washington and Yamhill counties.

Parker

The S. P. construction train is spreading gravel just south of the station.

The binders are beginning to sing around this neighborhood and several fields of grain have already been cut and shocked.

G. A. Dickinson and family were in Albany the last of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ziesch drove to Portland last Friday.

John Lacey has purchased the white fir timber along the river banks of Ernest Ziesch and is cutting same in preparation for floating it this winter to the Salem paper mills.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Horton drove to Portland Friday, Mr. Horton returning on Monday.

Lester Kline and Elmer Chapin had the fortune or misfortune to find a bee tree the other day. The tree and honey were all right but when the inhabitants "kicked" on being disturbed there was something doing. Lester was a good runner, but one arm hung behind a little and as a result it is now about double size. Elmer started in the wrong direction and poked his face into a bunch, as a result he is looking with one eye.

John Lacey is incapacitated just now with a large carbuncle on his arm.

Paul Jones of Hoskins, stopped in Independence a few hours last Saturday while enroute to Portland. He had his right foot quite badly jammed by a log and was on his way to a hospital to have an X-ray taken of it.

Buena Vista

Rev. Henry T. Atkinson of the University Park Methodist Episcopal church of Portland, who was recently taken ill at his home, 677 Vandebilt street, has been forbidden by the family physician, Dr. Frank M. Brooks, to preach or hold any service. A vacation has been granted to him. Rev. Atkinson was in charge of the church here at one time and was universally liked. The people here are sorry to hear of his illness and hope he soon will be in his normal health again.

Nellie Christensen returned home with her sister, Mrs. Lonan Wiltz, to spend the summer at the Tillamook beaches.

George Grounds, who has been on an extended trip to Washington, D. C., and other eastern cities and Canada, arrived at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Grounds, on Tuesday. Mr. Grounds' home is in Modesto, Cal., and he was a delegate from the Elks' lodge of that city to the national convention of Elks in Chicago recently. He reports a very pleasant and profitable trip. During his absence his wife and daughter have been visiting here.

Cleve Prather is the first farmer in this district to put wheat in the shock and G. E. Harmon the first to plow, the latter using a Fordson tractor.

Clifford and Alma Wells and Mrs. George Grounds were in Salem Friday evening to hear the Capitol City band and see the electrical fountain display.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Prather of Corvallis were here last week visiting relatives. They were accompanied home by Raymond McClain for an over Sunday visit.

Word from Alfred Loy, who is in an officers' training camp at San Diego, Cal., is to the effect that the heat is almost unbearable and that he will be glad to get back to Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Harmon and daughter, Miss Blanche, were in Salem Friday.

W. D. Nicholl, who recently sold his farm here, was in Yamhill, his former home, looking at farm land.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Prather of Portland were calling upon relatives here Friday on their way from Corvallis enroute home. They took their son Bobbie with them for an extended visit.

Mrs. Lena Gabriel and three children of Carlton returned to their home after a week's visit with the Christensen family.

Gale Prather, who is with the American forces in Germany, remembered a number of his relatives and friends here with beautiful Rhine stones. These are being made up into rings and brooches and have as rich an appearance as a diamond.

Mrs. J. R. Loy, Clarence Gilbert Leslie Loy and Miss Alma Wells were in Salem Tuesday.

Roy and Frank Bagbee of Portland, nephews of Mrs. Doc Black, were here over Sunday, making the trip on the little red cars.

The frame work of the J. A. Reynolds farm house is completed and ready for the plasterers. This house will be a modern one and ready for occupancy in a few weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Snyder and family moved to Salem last week, where they have employment.

J. R. Loy, wife and family Sundayed at the G. A. Wells home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Reynolds and family attended the chautauqua at Albany on Sunday. They heard Rev. Billy Sunday and are much enthused over his talk.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Elkin and family are visiting Mrs. Elkin's brothers at the Perry and Marvin Wells' homes and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Harmon, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Anderson and Blanch Harmon motored to Eugene Sunday, where the former took the stage for Belknap Springs for medical treatment.

Nelson Anderson and wife, Mrs. E. J. Anderson left Thursday morning for Belknap Springs, where the latter will remain for several weeks, hoping to get relief from inflammatory rheumatism. She has been a great sufferer from it for the past month.

Mabel and Howard Murphey are slowly improving from a week's illness.

MORE MONEY FOR HOP PICKERS

SEVENTY CENTS WILL BE RULING PRICE IN THIS DISTRICT THIS SEASON

Hop pickers will get more money this year than ever before in the history of the industry in the Willamette valley. Seventy cents per box will be the prevailing price in the Independence district, with every indication pointing toward big heavy hops. This is 10 cents more than was paid last year and 20 cents above the ruling price of two years ago. An experienced picker will make a "killing" while the novices will need adding machines to total their tickets for the season's work.

Present indications are that there will be plenty of pickers. From Portland and other nearby places they will come by the hundreds. For years many of the same people have been coming, availing themselves of this chance for an outing and change from their regular vocations and at the same time finding it highly profitable. Ample provision is made by the growers for the accommodation of the pickers and other helpers, furnishing fuel, tents and other things necessary to make the annual outing one of pleasure as well as profit.

Hundreds of hop workers have already been registered and the prevailing opinion is that there will be no shortage in the labor market when the big event opens the first week in September. Many local people, especially women, avail themselves of this opportunity to garner the shekels and hop time becomes quite the rage.

The hop growers are anxious to get their pickers registered at as early a date as possible in order to have everything working smoothly for the opening of the annual fete.

Many hop growers are confronted with an extraordinary condition. They contracted for the sale of their hops around 20 cents for a period of years, and are now meeting with such an increase in costs that some of them are wondering which side of the ledger is going to show the balance. Wire, twine, posts, burlap and everything else necessary for producing hops continue to increase in cost.

Some with better contracts are more fortunate but they are finding that the percentage of velvet is getting smaller right along. Hop growers were temporarily electrified last winter by dollar hops, but to most of them it was just a rainbow. A few transactions are reported to have been made at the time for spot delivery, but during the past few weeks there has been no bidding for hops and the price has continued to sag until it would be hard to tell what would be the ruling price at the present time, or when the new crop is ready for delivery.

The grower, with a contract which assures a reasonable profit, may not make as much money as the one who has not sold his crop, but he is probably sleeping better these times.

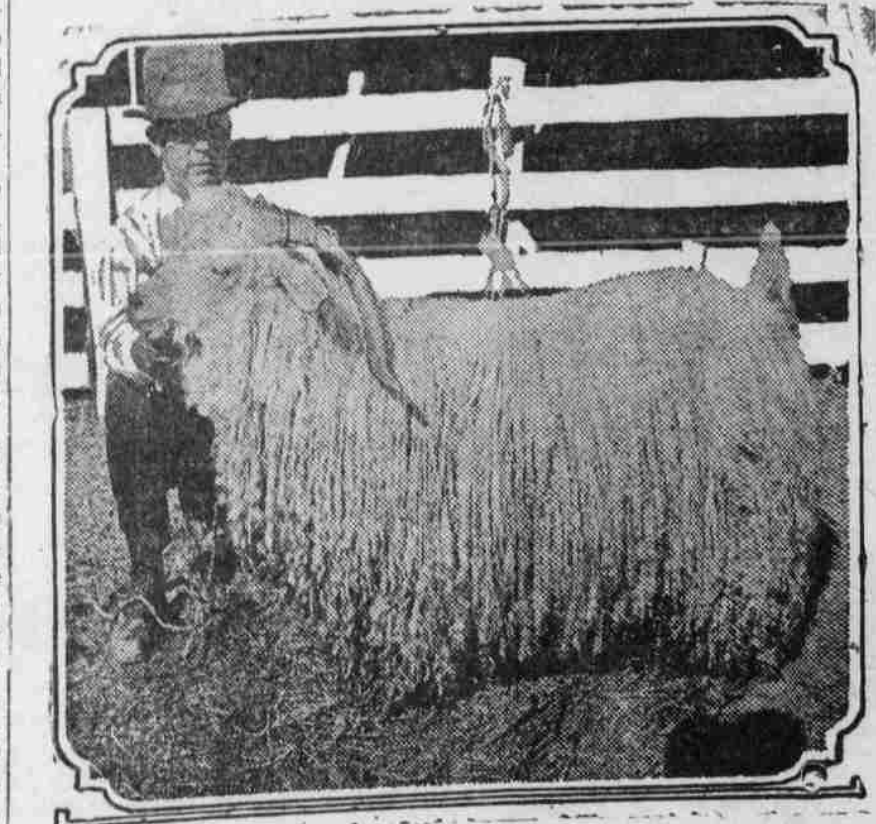
MEAT FIRM PLACES BEEF STOCK WITH FARMERS

In their quest of desirable beef cattle for their market, Miller & Smith picked up 31 head of exceptionally good Herefords and Shorthorns over in the Sweethome country. Believing that laying a foundation for the future is one of the essentials in a successful meat business, they readily sacrificed their own immediate interests by disposing of the pick of the flock to farmers in the Buena Vista district at practically what the cattle had cost them.

Their purpose is to get the farmers in this locality to raise better beef cattle. And when this becomes the vogue it will be found that there is not room for the "scrub" stock.

The body of R. T. Deering, the young O. A. C. student who was drowned at the E. Clements Horst ranch on Thursday of last week, was shipped to Portland for final disposition. The young man's mother died when he was a youngster and he had made his home with an uncle and aunt in Portland. His father lives in Salem.

Riddle Goat in the Limelight



An Angora goat is bringing Polk county into the limelight. It was raised by William Riddle & Sons of Monmouth, shipped to Texas about a month ago and at the Goat Raisers' show at San Angelo was auctioned for \$1750, the highest price ever paid for a goat.

The accompanying photograph was taken in Texas. It is the prize goat and Leslie Riddle, who is located in Texas, raising goats and delving for oil. The cut was furnished by a syndicate which supplies the service to thousands of newspapers of the country, thus furnishing much publicity to Monmouth and Polk county.

Three other goats were shipped to Texas with the prize tilly and all

were sold at auction. The price received for these was somewhat less, but still sufficient to return a handsome profit.

For more than 25 years William Riddle has been breeding registered Angoras and is demonstrating that it is a highly successful undertaking. His sons are associated with him and the list of prizes and other distinctive awards is a long one. For real quality in Angoras Polk county has any other county in the United States skinned to a frazzle in the opinion of men competent to judge.

Goats receive only a small part of Mr. Riddle's attention. He is an extensive breeder of colored Cots-wold and Lincoln sheep and operates a farm of magnificent proportions.