

What OTHERS Say

Competitive Utilities a Burden on the Public

(Application of the Consumers' Gas Co. of Millville.)

"Held: That the Board's decision in the Atlantic Highlands case, in which it refused to approve a franchise granted by an ordinance of the Township of Shrewsbury, is in line with WISE PUBLIC POLICY.

"The decision in the Atlantic Highlands case was to the effect that the competition between public utilities tends to be short-lived; that the unnecessary duplication of plant entails a permanent burden upon the public and that the illusive doctrine of competition in this field is being superseded by an experimental regime of strictly regulated monopoly."

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONERS.

"Only by regulated monopoly, and not by competition and duplication, can the lowest rates be secured."

SENATOR OSCAR UNDERWOOD, of Alabama,
in a speech in the House of Representatives, on
"The Water-Power Bill," July 18, 1914.



Hood River's Experience

(OREGON JOURNAL.)

SALEM, Or., July 17.—The State Public Service Commission today made an order in the case of F. G. Campbell and others against Hood River Gas & Electric Company, and Hood River Hydro-Electric Company, both under one management now, reducing the charge for commercial lighting in Hood River to a considerable extent, re-adjusting the schedule for residence customers by substituting a single block rate for an old complicated rate, which took into consideration the amount of installation each customer had, and finding that the rural rates were not discriminatory and that of necessity they must be higher than in the city. However, the minimum monthly charge for rural customers was reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.25.

Campbell and others instituted the complaint with a view of getting the same rates for the rural community as were charged in Hood River.

No valuation was allowed on any of the company's property that is not at present used in the service of the community. This excluded a transmission line from Hood River to The Dalles, as well as other property.

IT WAS FOUND THAT THE PLANT OF THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY, INCLUDING STORES AND SUPPLIES, HAD A VALUATION OF \$120,900 AND THAT OF THE HOOD RIVER GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY, \$162,396, A COMBINED VALUATION OF \$283,296.

THE VALUATION ON WHICH THE NEW RATES ARE BASED, WHICH TAKES IN PROPERTY OF USE AND USEFUL TO THE SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC, IS \$78,500 FOR THE HYDRO COMPANY AND \$140,500 FOR THE HOOD RIVER, MAKING A TOTAL OF \$219,000 FOR THE COMBINED PLANTS.

This was the first electric utility case taken up by the commission and an exhaustive study of the rates and valuations was made.

BEND WATER LIGHT & POWER CO.

THE DESCHUTES RANGER

FOR JULY

The July number of the Deschutes Ranger, issued monthly from the supervisor's office of the Deschutes National Forest, bears on the cover page a photograph, taken by Supervisor Merritt, of an elephant at work piling oak logs on the beach at Rangoon, India. The photograph suggests the lines from Rudyard Kipling's "Mandalay," "Elephants a'piling" oak on the sludgy, squdgy, creek."

This number of the Ranger contains many notes of road building and repair, improvements which are doing a great deal in opening up the forest to the tourist and sportsman. There is also a clever poem by Ranger J. B. Curl comparing former and present methods of getting to and fighting forest fires.

Extracts from the Ranger follow: Ranger South made a trip to the summit of Odell Butte to take observations regarding the advisability of establishing a lookout station at that point.

Supervisor Merritt and Ranger Oney spent June 13th and 14th in the region of Crane Prairie in going over possible road routes between that point and Lava lakes. An unusually good grade could be secured through a country free from rock where the surface will make an excellent road.

Cold spring on the Mackenzie wagon road is entirely dry, which is something very unusual. This spring was never known to be dry but once before at this time of the year and has been dry in the fall only once during the past ten years.

J. D. Rowman, who went on duty June 14th, is stationed at the Sisters Ranger Station. He has been busy repairing the Mackenzie telephone line, the pasture fence at Pole Creek Ranger Station and in cleaning out different trails in the district.

A. F. Averill in charge of the Biological Survey work in Oregon, with headquarters in Pendleton, was in Bend on Saturday, July 10th, looking after the interests of his department, especially as regards the work of exterminating coyotes.

Lumber has been sent to Paulina lake for the construction of a house for the lookout men at the summit of Paulina Peak. Deputy Supervisor Harpham, Ranger Smith and Guard Allen will do the construction work.

The first band of sheep to pass through Crescent enroute to the National Forest range were counted by Ranger South on June 22nd.

George Wilson, who is stationed at the Tumalo Ranger Station, has been working on the new road between there and Bend, cleaning out trails and repairing the counting corral at Swampy lake during the past month.

E. H. Howell, Deputy State Fire Warden and Ranger Vincent are constructing a lookout tower at Sisters, which will be about eighty feet high when completed.

A pole wagon bridge has recently been completed across Cottonwood creek and the Diamond lake road west of Beaver Marsh, by Sam Welch and other settlers in that vicinity. With this project constructed it is now possible to drive from Crescent to Diamond lake by auto.

Deputy Supervisor Harpham and party completed work on the road between Bend and Tumalo Ranger Station, the party having been disbanded at the end of June. The road is now passable by autos as far west as the Station.

On June 21st and 22nd F. F. Henshaw of the United States Geological Survey, in company with Supervisor Merritt, made a trip into the Metolius region and took stream measurements on the Metolius river at Jacks Canyon, First and Lake creeks, and on all of the various tributaries of Canyon creek. New gauges were put in at Canyon and Jacks creeks and arrangements made to have them read regularly during the coming summer.

A Kirstin one man stump puller has just been purchased for use on road work. It will first be tried out in the Davis lake region by Ranger Ed Mann.

Porter W. Ashley of Madras has made application for a tract of land on the south shore of Davis Lake as a summer cottage site. This is the first application that has been received under the new occupancy Act of March 4, 1915.

Forest Assistant Sproat has completed the primary plane table triangulation control for the Deschutes Forest and for the northern portion of the Paulina as far south as Walker mountain and Odell Butte. Probably no more work along this line will be done this season.

All of the primary lookout points on the forest have been equipped with Osborne Fire Lookout Protractors.

Hans Zimmerman has made application for a pasture and a corral special use permit to be used in connection with his leasing permit on Crescent lake.

Ranger Harriman is having the road between Summit Stage Station and his headquarters cleared of brush and rocks so as to make it passable for autos. He has also done a great deal of work along the same line on the other roads in his district. Ranger Oney has made an examination of the proposed administrative site at the southwest corner of Lava

Lake where fences will be constructed.

On June 24th H. E. Vincent counted two bands of sheep for Henrich Patfens, which were the first sheep entering that end of the Forest. The old sheep were in excellent condition and the lambs were extra large.

H. L. Baldwin from the General Land Office at Washington, D. C., arrived at Sisters on June 24th and is here to make a survey of the boundary line between the Deschutes National Forest and the Warm Spring Indian Reservation, commencing at the summit of Mt. Jefferson, thence working east to some point on the Metolius river. There has always been more or less dispute in connection with the location of the present boundary.

L. W. Zumwalt has been busy completing the pasture fence at the Allingham Ranger Station, irrigating the hay meadows and clearing out different roads and trails in that district. He has commenced work on a new road up the south side of Canyon creek which will be a big help in the way of fire protection when it is completed.

Jim Childers has just completed a cut off at Crane Prairie between the Cow Camp and the Ranger Station, thus avoiding the rocks and mud along the old road.

Ranger Ed Mann has been cutting poles for use on the Wickiup telephone line.

Messrs. Zumwalt and Golden have repaired the telephone line from the Allingham Ranger Station as far north as the Indian Reservation. They also made a large tool box to be placed at the forks of the Black Butte trail and the Metolius river road. Mr. Golden has taken a cook stove and his camp outfit to his cabin at the summit of Black Butte, where he will stay during the fire season. Already he has reported several fires.

On June 16th and 17th E. H. Howell and H. E. Vincent worked at putting out a fire which has been burning for a long time in the sawdust pile at the old Dayton mill in Section 20, Township 14 S., R. 10 East.

Supervisor Merritt went to Paulina and East Lakes late in June. While there he looked over the hotel site lease held by Fred Shintaffer, assisted in installing the lookout pro-

tractor on Paulina Peak and looked over possible sites for a lookout cabin.

Ranger Oney has constructed a spur telephone line about one-third mile in length from the Crane Prairie line to the summit of Bates Butte, a small hill near the Big River station which Mr. Oney uses for a secondary lookout point. The first call over this line came in on July 7th.

Forest Assistant Sproat and a field party of three men consisting of R. F. Wendover, F. H. Moffett and Clyde A. Beals started work on the High Desert Land Classification project on July 1st. A. F. Hauser of Fort Rock is with the party as cook and camp tender. It is expected that these men will cover an area of a little over forty thousand acres during the next two months. This will complete land classification work on the old Deschutes.

It has been decided to construct a stone cabin 12x18 feet at the summit of Walker mountain. Most of the necessary material has already been taken to the peak and Guard Stevens is now busy getting out the necessary rock.

Guards Christensen and Tyler are working at the Willow Ranger Station to complete the pasture fence started there last year.

On June 13 Supervisor Merritt and Ranger South made a trip to the summit of Walker mountain to look over a site for the construction of the lookout cabin. They also located a reported spring about one half mile from the summit, from which it is proposed to secure water for the use of the lookout men this season.

Altogether Ranger South and Guard Tyler, working with the local people in the vicinity of Crescent have constructed 8 1/2 miles of new road and have permanently repaired 34 miles of old road in that district. In doing this work they have removed logs, roots, rocks and stumps, widened and repaired a number of grades and made permanent drains and two fills through low places.

Dr. Ira A. Williams, Geologist for the Oregon State Bureau of Mines, was in this region several days during June looking over points of geological interest. He accompanied Supervisor Merritt on his trip in the Metolius region and to Paulina lakes. Ranger South made a trip to La

Pine on June 24th to assist the ranchers in working on the fire that has been burning for some time west of Rosland Ranger Station. Rangers Smith, Oney and Guard Childers have all worked at this fire at various times.

Mrs. Burton Oney, who is serving as telephone central at the Big River Ranger Station, reports that 476 official calls passed through there in June, 5 being the least and 50 the most received any one day.

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