

TO THE VOTERS OF BEND:—

The campaign is almost over and when the next issue of The Bulletin comes off the press it will have become history. The vote will have been taken and the result will have been ascertained.

In this last issue before election we wish to call to your attention some of the points which have been definitely settled in the public mind, and some of the arguments which have been put forth in our behalf.

FIRST:---

You know that since the present owners of the Bend Water Light & Power Co. took charge in 1912 extensive improvements have been made, both in construction of a new plant and in extensions of service. During this period none of the profits from the operation of the plant have been taken out of Bend, but together with considerable additional sums advanced by the stockholders, have been expended in additional improvements. A large percentage of these improvements the Commission has required us to place in suspense account because we built for the future and the present demand does not require them. A considerable portion of the cost of these improvements is represented by sums paid to local labor so that the community has already benefitted thereby although we are not permitted to realize on the investment until there is a greatly increased demand for current.

SECOND:---

The records show that we were instrumental in having filed with the Commission the complaint which brought about the recent investigation, hearing and resulting order making a reduction in rates. Our Mr. K. B. Miller requested the City Council to file a complaint if there was dissatisfaction with either rates or service. Several months elapsed and it was not until after a letter was received from our office urgently requesting that the complaint be filed that it was done. We courted the investigation, aided the Commission in every way we could, are abiding by the result, and put the new rates into effect immediately.

THIRD:---

Our opponents have devoted their attention entirely to electricity although they have a water franchise. We have challenged them through the press to publish their schedule of water rates. They have not done it. Why? Because it would not look well as compared with our rates found by the Commission to be fair. They are charging the people of Wiestoria, Riverside and Lytle \$2.00 per month for a service which we furnish for \$1.00.

FOURTH:---

Competition in public utilities is a failure. Experience has demonstrated this economic law and you have read the statements on this subject made by Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, Walter L. Fisher, ex-Secretary of the Interior, B. H. Meyer of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

You have read also the opinion of Frank J. Miller, chairman of the Oregon Public Utilities Commission, and the statement of our opponents that they "do now and always have believed in the competency of the commission."

Have our opponents quoted a single authority advocating competition? Is not their failure to do so in itself an admission of the weakness of their cause. Have they shown you by any evidence whatever that competition improves service or reduces rates.

We ask you to consider this matter very seriously and before you cast your vote on election day answer to yourself this question: Which is best for Bend, one plant, well equipped, with adequate resources to supply all possible demands for extensions and additions, and income reasonably sufficient to warrant these improvements as they are needed, OR two plants with a combined income barely sufficient for one, both losing money and neither willing to make extensions, knowing that the business will be divided and that further investment will be at a loss.

BEND WATER LIGHT & POWER CO.

Clearing Fields of Weed Pests

By H. D. SCUDDER, Agronomist at O. A. C.

(Continued from last week.)

Practical Method of Weed Control.
Successful and economical methods of control of these weeds on wheat lands are as follows:

Preventive on the Individual Farm.
In all waste places and along fence rows the weeds should be clipped and burned, preferably before they go to seed. In draws or the lee of hills, where they accumulate in the fall, they should be burned off.

Often these weeds will blow in large numbers on to a farmer's land up a certain draw or along a hill crest from the direction of the prevailing wind. In such cases, it is worth while to nail cleats on the fence posts and stretch a couple of light wires along the cleats so as to extend the height of the fence at those points where the weeds most commonly drift over. When the weeds pile up along this fence they may be burned off.

Care should be taken to sow only clean grain and other seeds. In other words, don't sow any weed seeds when seeding the land to crop. Use a fanning mill.

Remedial.

Following the harvesting of the grain, but not until after the first rains have come, the ground should be disked with such a machine as the double action cut away disk or the double action disk (sometimes called the Walla Walla weeder), or even the common disk. The first machine is the better, however, as it does thorough work in chopping down the stubble and in forming a first class seed bed in which all the weed seeds, together with shattered grain seeds will germinate. Then, when these weeds have started, a second disking should be given before winter comes, destroying the entire crop. In the spring, if the ground is particularly foul, another crop of weeds will come on and these should be thoroughly destroyed with the disk. This disking in the spring will also help to bring on the germination of any further seeds that may remain, which will in turn be destroyed with the plowing of the ground in April and May for summer fallowing. This treatment, if carried out as indicated, will not only get rid of weeds but is of the greatest benefit in aiding in the conservation of moisture, as the fall rains are quickly absorbed and the winter snows held. In addition, the stubble is broken down and incorporated with the soil so that decomposition sets in, humus is formed, and this becomes available for the use of the succeeding crops. On the other hand, the disking early in the spring is of distinct benefit in that it opens the surface soil which

has run together over winter, enabling it to absorb the spring rains and hold them. Further, it puts the ground in splendid shape for plowing, so that plowing is not only easier but the furrow slice when turned makes a good union with the soil underneath, aiding greatly in the conservation and use of moisture. In other words, aside from getting rid of these voracious weeds, the treatment is more than paid for by the good effects in moisture conservation and preparation for succeeding crops.

Another method of very great value on the dry farming lands for practically any class of weeds is to seed a part of the farm in single drill rows three feet apart. This alfalfa may be cultivated as much as desired, and at the end of the first year the field will be clean of all weeds. This alfalfa, of course, may be harvested for either hay or seed or used as pasture for sheep and hogs. For either purpose it will give a more profitable crop than wheat, provided the highly prized strains of alfalfa are grown. We especially recommend this crop for the dry farmer as a forage pasture crop, however. It may be plowed up at the end of four years and then seeded on another field until it is gradually moved over the entire farm. It will leave the land free of weeds and with a tremendous increase in fertility for the production of grain crops. The fields of alfalfa grown this way in different parts of eastern Oregon have proved successful and superior to the wheat crops.

TO THE RESCUE



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mendously increased fertility for the production of grain crops. The fields of alfalfa grown this way in different parts of eastern Oregon have proved successful and superior to the wheat crops.

Another effective treatment of this weed which may be used in conjunction with the methods already named, especially where the weeds are very bad, is spraying them with iron sulphate solution. The special advantage of this spray is that it may be applied to destroy the mustard as it grows right in the grain crop. The spray will not injure the grain but will destroy all species of mustard. To use this spray effectively on grain fields, however, requires a weed

spraying machine and a rather difficult operation and is not especially recommended. The other methods already named are the most desirable as they all aim at cleaning the ground of the seeds which are the source of the weed crop. Harrowing the young grain early in the spring is a practice quite widely followed at the present time in eastern Oregon. In some cases the harrow is used shortly after the grain is sown in the fall, where the fall rains have caused a vigorous germination of the weed seed. Harrowing after the grain is sown, whether done in the fall or in the spring after the grain is well advanced, is quite effective in destroying young weeds,

provided it is done with judgment. It is quite easily possible to injure the young wheat with harrowing and thus do more harm than good, but where the young weeds are thick and not too far advanced in growth, where the soil crust is sufficiently mellow to work well with the harrow and where the grain has been planted slightly more heavily to allow for harrowing, this practice is believed by most farmers to be a good one.

(Continued next week.)

Sluggish Liver Causes Trouble.

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