

## First Increase In Rates Asked by Pacific Power

Pacific Power & Light Company announced Monday that rising costs have made it necessary to file applications with the state utility commissions of Washington and Oregon for the first general rate increases in the firm's 48-year history.

Schedules for all classes of residential, commercial and industrial service would be adjusted, it was reported. The average increase requested for Oregon is about 15 per cent on its electric business in the state.

For most residential consumers, the increases would be between two and five cents a day, according to D R McClung, PP&L president. He said optional "all-electric" rates would be made generally available for residential customers having electric ranges and water heaters.

Although the formal filings ask for the new rates to be effective in 30 days, McClung said the expected procedure would be for the commissions to suspend the schedules pending hearings and a comprehensive examination of the company's revenue needs.

"Studies begun early this year make it obvious that rate relief must be obtained in 1959 to offset the continued heavy impact

of post-war inflation on construction and operating cost," he reported.

McClung said the company has managed to "hold the line on electric rates" during the post-war inflationary period because of operating economies and an increasing volume of business. He noted the average price received by the company per kilowatt-hour for residential service under existing rates has dropped 16 percent in the past ten years and now is less than half the average figure of 25 years ago.

"However," McClung said, "We have finally reached the point where the company must ask for additional revenues in order to meet the service requirements of our customers and maintain the credit standing necessary to finance construction of the new electrical facilities that are needed by a growing area."

The proposed new schedules for Oregon, where PP&L does part of its business, are expected to provide the company with \$3,969,000 of added revenue. In Washington, an average increase of about 10 percent would yield an estimated \$995,000 annually. The company has total annual electric service revenues of approximately \$39,655,000 in the two states.

The applications cite the average cost today of "bread and butter items" of the utility, such as poles, cross arms, wire and meters, as 218 per cent of the 1945 level. Present average wage rates, including fringe benefits, are 255 percent of the 1945 figure, it was said.

Pacific Power & Light reported its record construction program needed to serve its customers has resulted in the investment since 1949 of \$103,066,000 in new power plants and transmission lines to serve Oregon and Washington. New distribution facilities added in Oregon since 1945 cost \$55,346,594. In the same period new Washington distribution facilities cost \$19,178,814.

An additional investment of \$100,000,000 in transmission and distribution facilities alone is estimated to be required in the next five years, the company said.

Explaining the effects of the proposed schedules, Pacific Power reported that in the local district the consumers on the straight residential rate and using 100 kilowatt-hours of electricity would pay 40 cents more per month.

If consumers are on the all-electric rate, the increases will be 97 cents if they use 500 kilowatt-hours, \$1.17 if they use 700 kilowatt-hours and \$1.67 if they use 1000 kilowatt-hours of electricity. Increases for rural customers will be comparable, it was reported.

### County Chairmen

(Continued from Page 1) gram can begin to put together the missing parts of these long-standing mysteries."

"The experience and medical skills acquired in our battle with polio can be used with equal impact in these new fields. I'm sure that the residents of our county will feel an increased desire to support the March of Dimes in January, we had the taste of success before and now all of us are moving on toward greater victories."

**LARRY FETSCH HOME**  
Pvt Larry Fetsch, son of Mr and Mrs Al Fetsch, is home on a 15 day furlough from Fort Ord where he is stationed for his basic training. After his basic is completed he will be stationed at an airplane repair school in Virginia for eight months.

Mrs Elsie Erther of Milton-Freewater is spending the Christmas holidays at the home of her daughter, Mrs Lester Boulden.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Smith Apiaries

## GROWTH OF THE WEST SAID FACTOR IN BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR 1959

PORTLAND—Job-creating capital outlays for expansion are forecast for 1959 by 37 percent of the 3,212 company officials polled by the National Association of Manufacturers.

Population growth and expanding markets, particularly in the west, are factors in these optimistic answers to NAM's company expansion question in a coast-to-coast survey of small, medium and large businesses.

The year ahead, expansion-wise, is viewed with less cer-

tainty by 44 percent of businessmen polled. They foresee no change in capital outlays over 1958. The remaining 19 percent feel they will make fewer capital outlays for expansion.

Neutral and negative views on expansion are influenced by economic forces that businessmen feel will restrict their growth as the nearly one-third of all businessmen polled marked taxation as the No 1 roadblock to expansion in 1959.

Increased costs and business uncertainty ranked next as expansion deterrents.

Sales in 1959 will be up, according to three-fourths of those polled, but only half of them feel that profits will keep pace. The balance expect comparable or fewer profits than in 1958.

Yet only five percent expect fewer sales in 1959 than in the concluding year.

### GT Again Slates Early Paper Date

The Gazette-Times again reminds news correspondents and advertisers that the paper will again be published two days early next week because of the New Year's holiday.

The paper will go to press next Tuesday and will be delivered to all subscribers in the area either that afternoon or Wednesday morning.

All news and advertising copy should be in as early as possible for inclusion in the issue.

### Hitchcock Developing S American Lumber

Mr and Mrs Maurice Hitchcock and family of White Swan, Washington, owner of the White Swan Lumber Company and Heppner Pine Mills, will leave shortly after the first of the year for Chili, South America to put into operation a lumbering and sawmill operation there.

Mr Hitchcock is developing a modern lumber operation in Chili of Alerce, a wood grown in that country. The lumber will be marketed in the United States and somewhat resembles west coast redwood. He now has a limited operation there and the nucleus of his development crew has already been sent to South America.

The Hitchcock family plans to remain in Chili for about three months.

### Many Games Played at Heppner P-TA Meet

Children and parents alike shared the opportunity to show how his generation could do it best at the meeting of the Heppner P-TA Wednesday evening, December 10.

Dr Robert Pfeiffer was program chairman for the evening and he divided the athletes into teams for a warmup relay game. After that there were many races, games, a tug of war and a volleyball game. In a final contest the faculty defeated the parents in a hotly contested game.

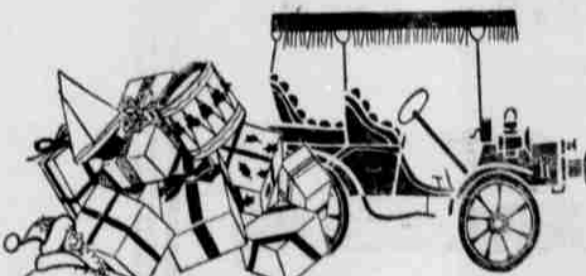
Refreshments were served in the cafeteria by Mrs Alvin Wagenblast, Mrs Marcel Jones, Mrs C E Warren, and Mrs Joe Stewart. The luncheon was beautifully decorated with arrangements made by Mrs Helen Cox.

### HOSPITAL NEWS

New Arrival—To Mr and Mrs Lyle Vaughan, Monument, a 6 lb 3 oz boy born, Dec 21, named David Dale.

Patients—Martha Holm, Heppner, dismissed; Frank Halvorsen, Tione, dismissed; Sam Hunt, Fossil; Kenneth Eckman, Heppner; Francis Rudd, Kinzua.

USE GAZETTE TIMES CLASSIFIED ADS



Fifty years ago or today the sentiment remains the same... and so we say

## GREETINGS

of the season

**ELLA'S GRILL**

ELLA SARGENT AND THE STAFF

WE WILL BE CLOSED

DECEMBER 25 AND 26

But Will Be Serving A

SPECIAL DINNER

NEW YEAR'S DAY

## Episcopal Church To Start Classes

The Rev Bruce Spencer, rector of All Saints' Episcopal church, has announced that instruction classes in the church will start on Tuesday, January 27. They will be held in the rector's study at 8 p m.

The course of instruction will cover a period of 16 weeks and persons interested in knowing more about the church are welcome.

### LEAVE FOR HOLLAND

Mr and Mrs Harry Bongers and small son left last weekend by plane for the Netherlands to spend about a month visiting relatives. Both Mr and Mrs Bongers are natives of Holland and he is administrator of Pioneer Memorial hospital.

### Board Proposes Meat Inspection Law Revisions

Several changes in the state meat inspection law were proposed at a meeting of representatives of the Oregon Livestock and Meat Marketing Board and state department of agriculture officials in Salem last week.

Board members recommended bringing all mobile slaughter plants under a \$50 license fee. Another proposed change would require all locker plants and retail markets receiving uninspected meat to identify meats in cooler as for sale or not for sale, by the means of a special stamp. This would prevent meats received from farmers for cutting and wrapping entering market channels.

In a third request, the group asked the meat inspection law be changed to require plants working overtime from their scheduled slaughter period to pay the full costs of overtime.

Dr R C Sexauer, field supervisor for the program, announced at the meeting that he will leave state service at the end of September to take a position with the federal meat grading service in Washington, D C.

Dr Sexauer presented a resume of the present Oregon program, in which 98 men are now working. Five plants have discontinued operations since meat inspection started, but only two as a result of the program, he said.

The state has not closed any plants for failure to comply with the construction and sanitation

requirements of the meat inspection law. At least 40 of the 89 plants under state meat inspection have been required to make major construction changes and ten of them are still in the process.

Slaughter at the state inspected plants is now running about 20,000 animals a month, Dr Sexauer said.

In other action, board members agreed that the department should present its full budget as proposed to the 1959 legislature.

Mr and Mrs Gordon Pratt and family left today (Tuesday) for Portland where they will spend the Christmas holiday with their parents.

### HAS SURGERY

In word received here it is learned that Mrs Howard Reed of Tigard, former Heppner resident, is recovering from a recent brain surgery. Mr Reed is a former superintendent of Heppner schools.

Mr and Mrs Claude Graham of Heppner and Mr and Mrs Bernard Damon of LaGrande were in Forest Grove Sunday to attend the wedding of Mr Damon's brother.

Dr and Mrs Clifford Wagner had as their guests over the weekend, her brother and sister-in-law, Dr and Mrs John Affeldt. Dr Affeldt is the medical director of Rancho Los Amigos polio hospital in Downey, California.



## WOMEN'S COATS

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See the finer details, all the extras. Sizes to fit everyone!

<p><b>Girls' Easy-Care</b></p> <p><b>Better Dresses</b></p> <p><b>\$3.00</b></p> <p>Wash 'N Wear. Little or no ironing. Spring patterns and colors. Sizes 7 to 14. Sizes 3 to 6x ..... \$2.25</p>	<p><b>WOMEN'S Easy-Care</b></p> <p><b>Gingham Dresses</b></p> <p><b>\$5.00</b></p> <p>Wash 'N Wear. Little or no ironing. Bright spring patterns and colors. Jr. Misses and half sizes.</p>
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**MEN'S SLIPOVER SWEATERS** ..... \$5.00  
Bulky knit crew neck

**CHILDREN'S SHOES** ..... \$3.33  
Sizes 9 to 2 1/2

**WOMEN'S BETTER DRESSES** ..... \$3.99

**WOMEN'S BLOUSES** ..... \$1.44  
Sizes 32 to 38



With Thanks and Best Wishes for Christmas

**WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE**

JOHN AND BETTY PFEIFFER

## Bud Says!

A weak battery can cause excessive damage to the electric system of your car. If the battery is not delivering as much power as needed, it will wear the starter, generator and all other parts. Large repair bills can result from a weak battery. Why not trade your battery in on a fresh new Standard Battery. Your old battery is worth \$5 on the exchange basis.

"A bald head is no disgrace if the bareness is confined to the outside." Bald tires are a disgrace. A tire that is smooth is dangerous to the owner as well as other people on the highway. Have your bald tires recapped with our famous Kraft Balance Recap with the new tire mileage guarantee. We have them already made up and can exchange casings with you. Kraft recaps start as low as \$8.95, so see us today.

"Minds are like parachutes. They only function when open." Open-minded people want the best possible tire they can buy for the protection it affords. The General Nygen tires give you all the safety factors you want at very reasonable prices. We give top trade-in price for your used tires. Why don't you come in and let us show you the General Nygen tire as low as \$1.75 per week.

Sign on a chicken house: "WARNING" "Anyone found prowling around here at night will be found here in the morning." Which reminds us of one of the signs of the time and that is the number of people who have turned in their 15" winter tires on the 14" tires. You see they have bought new cars and the 15" won't work. We have a good supply of these 15" used snow tires that you can buy for as low as \$8.45. Come in and let us fix you up.

We always have a good supply of bargain tires. In fact we can supply a new tire at most any price you want to pay. TERMS too! Yes sir, you can buy your tires and pay for them over a period of time out of your income. When you need tires and batteries, just see us for the best buy in town.

"What ever troubles Adam had, and he had plenty, he never had to help his wife address the Christmas cards!" Which reminds us that the Yule season is underway and we sure want to wish you each and every one the very best of the mostest. A Merry Xmas to you all.

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