

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM GIVES EXTENSIVE, EFFICIENT SERVICE

The annual report of the Bell system telephone has just been issued. It is very complete and shows many interesting phases.

The Bell system covers the entire country and inaccessible indeed is the place which can not be reached from the 11,795,747 telephone stations which constitute the Bell system in the United States.

Gresham is one of these stations and can reach any other one of the stations by phone. Although many people use the phone for long distances as between Portland and Chicago, New York, etc., the telephone is more often used to relay telegrams.

An interesting incident just happened recently when Wm. Morand, who is spending the winter in California, sent a telegram to his wife in Boring. The telegram was sent to Portland where it was telephoned to the Gresham office, then to Boring and ten minutes after Mr. Morand sent his message from Los Angeles H. J. Pulfer was telephoning an answer to the Portland office for Mrs. Morand. This was of course exceptional but there are many other instances which show how quickly a message may reach people who live in small communities reached by the Bell system.

The report says: The system, although made up of many separate corporate entities, operates as one organization and enjoys the benefits of one organization—unity of purpose, standardization of material and methods, a single manufacturing, purchasing and supply department and a uniform policy. It is shown that there are advantages both to the stockholders and to the public in efficiency and economy of operation, in addition to the insurance value resulting from the national scope of the utility.

Salaries and wages have been increased to meet the present standards and are believed to be generally fair and sufficient to attract the high class of personnel which is necessary to and has been characteristic of this service.

As in the past, the actions of rate controlling bodies have, in general, been acceptable. There are exceptions, as always, but the tendency is toward more equitable and more sound treatment. It is becoming more clearly understood that in a utility of this sort, which in order to give service must expand with the growth of the community, the test of rates—assuming economy and ef-

iciency—is the return which will attract capital.

"No man and no corporation," says Mr. Thayer, president of the company, "had a right to expect to come through the great war untouched. Our greatest loss was the loss of these margins for plant growth and reserves of men and women in training. During the war the restriction on the use of capital and material, coupled with the unprecedented demand for service, compelled us in some places to exhaust our plant margins and left us at the beginning of 1919 with an actual shortage of plant to meet the then demands. By the end of the year, except in a few localities, the usual facilities were restored."

There is a heavy loss shown during the war in men and women trained for telephone work and in young men in the minor supervisory positions. "Handicapped by this lack of plant and of employees, especially supervisory officials, we entered upon the year of the greatest demands upon us," says the report. "Unavoidably, therefore, the service, particularly in congested centers, has been impaired. It is now improving, but it cannot be brought to the pre-war standard until conditions approaching those before the war again obtain. To do as well as has been done, no body of men and women ever labored more loyally in the public service than have the thousands in this service during the past."

Many mechanical labor saving devices have already been adopted to meet the shortage of unskilled labor, and other devices are being constantly studied and adapted to the needs of the business. The report says, "Every resource of the Bell system has been brought to bear upon the service problem. In more than half the cities in the country the service has already been restored to normal, and during 1920 a return to substantially normal service is confidently looked forward to throughout the Bell System."

At the end of last year there were 209,860 employees in the Associated Bell companies and they are operating 24,162,999 miles of wire of which 94.6 per cent was copper.

There were 15,000 telephone men in war service from the Bell system and practically all who have applied for reinstatement have been re-employed. This drawing back of so many experienced men into the employ of the company will add much to the value of the service.

DRESSMAKING EXPERT MAY COME AGAIN

A number of ladies enjoyed the opportunity of attending the lecture by Edmund Gurney Wednesday afternoon at Union High school. There would have been a larger number present if they had known the wonderful help which was received from the meeting.

The lecture was made clear by charts and samples of finished work and it was most helpful and practical. If enough women wish it Mr. Gurney will come back again and conduct a class for one afternoon on skirt making. He made sample packets of various kinds, showed how to lay a hem and make plaits and those present were anxious to try these methods under the direction.

Arrangements are being made to hold the meeting at the high school if there are enough women who would care to spend the afternoon in that way. Miss Schrepel of the Home Economics department at Union high, would be glad to have all those women who desire to receive this instruction, notify her in order that they may know whether or not to have Mr. Gurney come out again. There will be no charges.

In his lecture Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Gurney demonstrated the use of commercial patterns and explained many fitting problems.

He cut and fit a pattern for one of the ladies showing how simple it would be to cut and fit a waist from the charts which may be obtained at the Gresham stores in connection with the purchase of dressmaking supplies.

Mr. Gurney gave the following recipe for a cleaning mixture which he said would take out grease, tar, pitch, paint, and many other difficult stains without leaving any rings or spots.

Dissolve by boiling in one quart of water, 1/2 ounce of Castile soap, and 1/2 ounce powdered gum arabic. Let this mixture cool and add 1 ounce glycerine, 1 ounce aqua ammonia, 1/2 ounce chloroform, 2 ounces sulfuric ether. This makes one quart stock solution.

Take a pint bottle, put one inch of this stock in it and to this amount add a quart of gasoline by degrees, only a trifle at a time. Shake well to thoroughly mix.

Great care should be used in preparing this solution because of the inflammable nature of the ingredients. It should not be used or mixed near lights or fire.

There are still lots of "poor but honest parents" but their children don't seem to brag about them like they used to.

LYNCH P. T. WILL GIVE COMEDY-DRAMA HERE

The comedy-drama "The Fascinating Fanny Brown", which attracted such attention at Lynch the latter part of February will be given at the Masonic hall in Gresham Friday evening, March 19 by the Lynch Parent-Teacher circle.

The drama was given at Lynch before the largest audience that ever assembled at the school. Many people from outlying districts and from Portland attended.

Many who were unable to attend the play as given at Lynch have requested the committee to give it again and they have agreed.

The play which lasts about two hours concerns the adventures of a number of guests and a mysterious Fanny Brown, at the summer hotel owned by one Percival Gale, known in Lynch as H. Zenger. Billy Pearson is the only man at the hotel. This part is cleverly handled by Robert Conroy. Henry Dudley, a college sophomore is played by Adolph Zenger, who distinguished himself as a lightning change artist.

Mrs. Herbert Lynch takes the part of Mrs. Moffett and is a constant delight to the audience in her portrayal of the nervous woman.

The part of guests at "Idlewild" are played as follows: Mrs. Caldwell, Mrs. Gertrude Conroy; Audrey Caldwell, Miss Mildred McGregor; Dorothy Dudley, Miss Ruth M. Todd; Florence Howe, Mrs. Margaret Crane. Mrs. K. A. McGregor plays the part of Martha.

A number of musical numbers will be given during the evening.

Owing to the fact that all the expenses of the play were met at the first performance a decided reduction in the price of tickets has been made.

After the drama a dance will be given for all those who wish to remain. A nominal fee will be charged.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MAN ON OUTLOOK FORCE

The Outlook counts it an honor to have on its force an ex-service man who distinguished himself by marked bravery in France and who has the United States distinguished service medal in recognition of that fact.

The man is Ross E. Read of Portland, formerly of Gresham, and well known to many Gresham people. He is employed on one of the linotypes in the Outlook composing room.

Mr. Read carries his honor with extreme modesty and was persuaded with difficulty to display his medal, which was won at the battle of Cantigny, May 28, 1918, when he carried a wounded comrade from the battle field at the risk of his own life.

POMONA TO MEET AT EVENING STAR

Pomona grange will meet in the Evening Star grange hall Wednesday, March 17 at 10:30 a. m.

In the morning reports of the granges will be read and general business transacted. Dinner will be served between 12 and 2 o'clock. Lecture hour will be between 2 and 3 o'clock with short addresses and music. This will be open to the public. President Kerr of the Oregon Agricultural college and Walter H. Evans, district attorney are expected to be present in the afternoon and give short talks.

A number of resolutions of interest are to be discussed at the closed session from 3 to 5:30 p. m. and it is expected and desired that a large number will attend.

From 5:30 to 7 p. m. the time will be spent in a social way and the evening meal will be served.

At 7 p. m. the Pomona degree work will be put on and following that the meeting will again be opened to the public and a program of songs, instrumental music, readings, and addresses will be given.

At the last meeting held in December, during the storm, there were only eight present and only the most urgent business was attended to. This will be a most important business meeting and it is desired that as many as possible attend.

Some women don't know much but all of them know no man can give a lying excuse that sounds plausible.

Is your watch steadily losing time? If so, it needs cleaning and adjusting. Bring it to Jones, the Jeweler. All work guaranteed.

Some building material dropped on the telephone wires which run along the Howitt building which is being remedied by Frank C. Jones & Company, put out about half the telephone lines the other day. The telephone men were about 4 or 5 miles out in the country and it was a little while before they could get back and straighten up matters.

P. T. CIRCLE WILL MEET WEDNESDAY

The Patron-Teacher circle will meet at the grade school at 3 o'clock next Wednesday afternoon, March 17. Principal Elmer F. Goodwin will speak on "Cooperation between the Grade School and High School."

The contest for the possession of the picture is still on and the room bringing out the largest number of parents and friends will have the picture next month.

The regular business meeting will be held.

Those in charge of the Patron-Teacher circle suggest that everyone get an early start that afternoon, attend the Ladies' Aid luncheon and apron sale at the Carlson building and after they have purchased several new aprons to attend the meeting at the schoolhouse.

The teachers and pupils will be glad to see any of the mothers who arrive early. So that a visit to the school may well be combined with this meeting.

Working Man Finds Way to Pay Taxes.

A dispatch from Washington states that government taxes during 1921 will amount to approximately \$550 for every family in the United States. A labor man in Seattle has discovered a way to beat the game:

"We are going to pay the cost of the war through taxation," he said. "I will have to pay my share and the only way I can beat the game is to lend the government as much money as I can and get back as interest what I pay out in taxes."

"Therefore, I am buying War Savings securities, paying four per cent interest compounded quarterly and am advising every other man who works for a living to do the same. I know of no better place to put one's savings than in War Savings stamps and Treasury Savings certificates."

Children are sometimes a bore, but the absence of them is more of a bore.

Hope and ambition are the parents of enterprise. When they die, you're an orphan.

Spraying.
Get your orchard sprayed with high powered sprayer. Wallin & Connell, phone 494.

NIGHT SCHOOL OPENS AT UNION HIGH

Department of Agriculture

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 17, 7:30 O'CLOCK

Classes in

POULTRY RAISING DAIRYING FEEDING
PLANT BREEDING FARM ACCOUNTING

and other subjects of interest to the farmers will be formed, which will meet once a week. Adult persons interested are especially invited to attend.

Two Instructors No Charge

FIND WATER IN MILK BY FREEZING



Dr. Julius Hortvet, Minnesota state chemist, has invented a machine which will force retail milk distributors in the city to watch their step. Watered milk can be tested in eight minutes with his machine. The process is simple. It is by freezing. The water in milk freezes first—showing accurately the percentage of water in each bottle of milk.

WM. H. REED, PIONEER BURIED AT FIR HILL

Wm. H. Reed, who had been in poor health for the past five years and who had been a patient sufferer for the past three months, passed away Thursday, March 4th, at 1 o'clock a. m., at the age of 68 years, eight months and sixteen days. Although not unexpected, his passing was quite a shock to his friends as he had seemed to feel better than usual and the day prior to his death had walked about the yard and conversed in his usual pleasant way with his friends, telling them he hoped to be able to be at his place of business in his general merchandise store in a few days.

Mr. Reed was born near Rockford, Illinois, June 18, 1851. His mother was drowned in the Rock River when he was a six months' old babe. He grew to manhood near the place of his birth, from which place he went to Iowa and was married. About ten years later he moved to Astoria, Oregon where with his young family he resided until the spring of 1887, when they moved to what is known as Reed's Island in the Columbia river near Corbett, which he bought from the government. Here he resided until the 1894 flood when he was forced to take his family in a row boat and seek safety on the Oregon shore as the island was entirely submerged. He later bought the present home sight and erected a store building and was instrumental in obtaining the postoffice for this place.

He was many years postmaster at Corbett where he had lived for the past 26 years. During his sickness his patient wife was constantly with him and did every thing possible to make his last days pleasant.

He leaves a wife, five sons, three daughters, and seven grandchildren. Mr. Reed was a charter member of Columbia grange.

The funeral was held from the grange hall on Friday, March 5, conducted by Rev. E. A. Leonard of Gresham. Burial was made in the Fir Hill cemetery.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to express our thanks to the many kind friends and neighbors who assisted at the time of the death of our husband and father, and for the beautiful floral offerings, also to Columbia grange for their sympathy and assistance.

Mrs. Myrta E. Reed and Children.

Signs of Spring.

Let those harp who will on the virtue of the ground hog but this year he must have been on a strike.

Never was a day brighter than February 2, 1920 and the six weeks are almost up and yet we have not had the dreadful storms which were predicted at that time.

In fact it looks more like the old adage should have been "six weeks of spring" instead of "six weeks till spring." Even if the weather hadn't been so bright and sunny, any citizen of this town would have known it was spring by the display of garden seed in the stores, the general hum of business at spray headquarters, at the pruning implement counters, and the machinery shops.

Plows, harrows, disc, etc., are being towed through town to their new homes where they are being put to use during the fine weather. Persons pass down the street carrying rakes, hoes, shovels and smaller equipment for putting their yards into shape. Signs of spring are on every hand.

Many yards about town are showing the result of the annual spring gardening fever which effects so many people about this time of year. It is even more general and quite as contagious as the flu which had its lining the first of the year.

The fever doesn't always take the gardening turn, however, sometimes it takes another turn, the symptoms of which are first noticed in the habit of lingering around the window displays of new spring bonnets. This form is an extremely dangerous one to pocket books, and is aggravated by the sight of such attractive hats as are shown in the local shop.

Just as tempting and perhaps as hard on the pocket book is the alluring fishing tackle to be seen in another window.

Summer voiles, gingham and spring dresses fill an important place in the general array of spring goods which proclaim to this locality that spring is at hand.

Chautauqua Guarantors Called.

A meeting of the Chautauqua guarantors has been called by the president, F. L. Mack, for next Sunday afternoon, March 14, to consider some problems in connection with the coming session. The meeting will be at the library and will be called promptly at 3 o'clock.

Next Monday

About 100 chicks from those extra quality high record Leghorns at Lyman's hatchery. Cockerels from this stock will improve your flock. A. R. LYMAN, Gresham, R. A.

Storage battery repairing and recharging, starter and generator work. Raker & Son.

HOME ASSN. DECIDES TO BUILD DWELLINGS

A meeting of the stockholders of the Gresham Home Builders' association was held at the Bank of Gresham last night at which 152 of the 200 shares were represented.

Since its organization several months ago only one application for loans has been received. This was acted on favorably and the money is being used by Mr. Gorsage toward the construction of his new house.

For some weeks the opinion has been growing that there were not likely to be applications enough to pay to keep the association in existence. The proposition to build houses to sell was thought by some to be out of the question while prices of building materials are so high.

The meeting last night was called to talk over the situation and decide what course to follow.

There was a good representation of shareholders and everyone present expressed an opinion, mostly favorable to a building program. When the matter was put to vote all but one voted for the proposed building plan and this one changed his vote so that the result stood unanimous for authorizing the directors to proceed with a plan of erecting one or more dwellings for sale.

The motion was worded by Judge Stapleton as follows:

That it be the sense of the meeting, that the directors be authorized to build one or more dwellings as may, in their judgment, seem best; that they levy such assessment as is necessary; that the secretary be instructed to request each of the absent stockholders to file, within five days, an expression of his attitude on this question. If a majority of all stockholders are in favor, the board is authorized to proceed.

In the discussion it was brought out that there was a demand for ready built houses, that the city was in need of more houses and that the demand would certainly increase. It was also brought out that while all building material was high the present prices were almost certain to continue for several years. Other cities, it was stated, were going ahead with building programs, why should not this city, with its favorable location, do the same?

The kind of houses proposed are of the better type costing probably about \$3000 each to complete.

LEONARD WOOD SPEAKER HERE MONDAY NIGHT

Leonard Wood, as a candidate of presidential nomination on the republican ticket, will be represented in Carlson's hall, Gresham, next Monday night, by D. W. Alton, vice president of the Leonard Wood club of Oregon. Geo. W. Stapleton will also be a speaker.

This will be the first big bomb shell of the campaign in this locality and should draw a large number of Wood admirers and, in fact, all republicans both men and women. The public is invited.

A Gresham republican club has been organized and has had two or three meetings. The membership committee hopes many will come to the meeting next Monday night prepared to enroll their names on the roster and help back up the work of the club.

Strawberry Growers.

We have secured a few thousand of Wellington Marvel and Gold Dollar strawberry plants that were grown with special care by A. Helney on the Phenix Farm where for five years he has been producing the largest crop of finest quality of strawberries. One year old plants last year produced 3 1/2 tons of berries per acre. Four year old plants 1 1/2 tons. We are selling Wellington Marvel at \$15 per thousand. Gold Dollar plants \$10 per thousand. Don't buy scrub plants for the same reason you would not buy a scrub cow. The Cooperative Berry Grower, D. E. Towle, Phone 146.

Jazz Dance.

The Syncopated Jazz band of Portland will give an opening dance in Gresham Masonic hall, Saturday night, March 20. Jazz music, prize waltz. Dancing at 8:30. The opening date will be followed by a dance every Saturday night. Gentlemen 65c, ladies 35c.

The Ladies' Aid society will hold a luncheon and apron sale at the M. W. A. hall in Gresham on March 17. The luncheon will be at noon. Forty cents a plate will be charged.

Furniture Sale Coming.

Mrs. Withrow will sell at public auction, in the near future, all of the furniture of the Josephine Knighton apartments in Gresham and also the furniture from her own home in Portland. Watch for the list.

Read the Want ads.