

ASK PUBLIC TO PAY INTEREST ON INTANGIBLE ASSETS

BY GILSON GARDNER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Why electric light bills are high has been disclosed by the official inquiry now being conducted by the District of Columbia public utilities commission, in the value of the local light concern. Electric light bills are high because consumers must pay interest on a lot of capitalized ideas like these:

1. Being the first to think of setting up an electric light plant in this city. For this Washington consumers pay interest on \$650,000.
2. Services of engineers to "check up" the idea of the man who first thought of setting up a plant in the District of Columbia, \$250,000.
3. Getting the franchise from congress; dinners to congressmen, and other "legal expenses," \$262,000.
4. Preliminary operations and "adaptation expense," such as talking with other people who are interested in similar projects, \$50,000.
5. Printing prospectuses and other literature, \$50,000.
6. Compensation to promoters, \$650,000.
7. Other incidental pre-organization expense, \$25,000.
8. Brokerage and commission to bankers and others, \$700,000.
9. Right to use the streets for conduits (given by congress without compensation), \$2,500,000.
10. Attaching business to the property, development, etc., \$2,115,322.

All this is over, above and outside any actual physical property of the company. It is their "intangible" property. The figures and data are supplied to the public utilities commission by the attorneys of the company, at public hearings now in progress.

Add to the above intangible value a claimed valuation of \$15,000,000 for the physical properties of the company, and the result is the "capitalized" value of the concern, used by the company as a basis for making rates to the consumers.

The district commission, at the conclusion of the hearings, will present their views as to a proper valuation and eventually will issue orders for a revision of rates. Then the company will go into the courts and the legal mills will grind for a few years, at the end of which time Washington consumers will all be converts to municipal ownership.

ARABIA SUNK AS TRANSPORT
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from the Aegean to Malta, so that the Arabia was moving on the transport route Coriga-Malta, used solely for war purposes, according to the experience until now.

Saw Soldiers Aboard.
The commander of the submarine further ascertained that there were large batches of Chinese and other colored persons in their national costumes on board the steamer. He considered them to be workmen soldiers such as are used in great numbers behind the front by the enemies of Germany. In spite of the clear weather and careful observation he did not perceive any women and children.

"In these circumstances, the commander of the submarine was convinced that in the case of this steamer he was concerned with a transport ship for troops in the service of the British government which is to be considered as an auxiliary warship, according to international law, and can therefore be treated like a warship. He accordingly considered himself justified in attacking the steamer without delay and sank it.

Ask for Data.
Should the American government give the official data showing that the Arabia was at the time of the torpedoing an ordinary passenger steamer the action of the commander would not have been in accordance with the instructions given him since these instructions are now as before in agreement with the assurances of the German note of May, 1916. This would then be a case of regrettable mistake from which the German government would promptly draw the appropriate consequences."

What action the state department will take is problematical. Secretary Lansing refused utterly to comment on the case today and other officials were reticent.

Should it be known that the Arabia was, as Germany contends, a transport, this government probably would admit the sinking was justified.

If, however, it is shown that the submarine commander was mistaken in holding her to be a transport, a most serious situation will confront the state department. At the time the Sussex was sunk, Germany was told that this country would not tolerate "regrettable mistakes."

RAILROADS RAISED PORK BARREL CRY SAYS CHAMBERLAIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Canals are supplemental to railroads, not competitive, declared Joy Morton of Chicago in an address today before the national rivers and harbors congress.

"The railroads are overloaded with low-class freight which for themselves and the shipper could be sent better by canals," he said. "It is time in these days of congested lines and choked-up railroad terminals to consider the waterways as a relief."

Railroads were charged by Senator Chamberlain with initiating a large part of the opposition to appropriations for improvement of rivers and harbors. He declared adequate water shipping facilities would furnish a panacea for high rates. He concluded by urging the delegates not to "allow the press of this country to frighten you because they charge you with being members of a band of thieves."

TO SUPPORT LLOYD-GEORGE
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sions to the nationalists which will bring them into power.

As far as the cabinet is concerned, the new premier has a nucleus in A. Bonar-Law, Lord Derby, Lord Curzon, Sir Frederick E. Smith and Sir Edward Carson, while Viscount Reading, the lord chief justice, is likely to join the ministry.

May Get Laurels.
Other liberal members may be drawn from men such as Sir Frederick Cavley, member of the house of commons from the Prestwick division of Lancashire, and Sir George Pollard, member from the Eoelcs division of Lancashire, who, although the public has heard little of them, have done efficient work in committees. Dr. Christopher Addison, parliamentary under-secretary for munitions, is almost certain to have a place in the cabinet, and Colonel Winston Spencer Churchill, former first lord of the admiralty, is slated for a high office.

Under the circumstances, it is believed the construction of the cabinet will be a matter of only a day or so, and that by Monday the new government will meet the house of commons to learn what manner of reception will be accorded it. A test of its strength can be made on the vote of credit which must be moved immediately.

Today's session of the house of commons was expected to be a formal one, it being doubtful whether any of the ministers would put in an appearance.

ELECTRICAL WEEK, --DO IT BY WIRE

Celebration of America's electrical week in Medford is half over and those in the electric business declare that the public has been spending the time profitably learning how to "do it electrically."

Each day has found many new faces in electrical stores looking over various conveniences for home, farm and factory, which are on display, and as a result there will be far more electrical things given for Christmas presents this year than ever before.

Paul's electrical store is a blaze of light all the time and they will keep open of evenings every night the balance of this week. There will be music and souvenirs for the ladies. All are invited to call and see that up-to-date electrical store.

What Mothers Say

The experience of those who have used "Mother's Friend" should merit expectant mothers' consideration at this time.

Mother's Friend
"Was the means of banishing morning sickness and nauseating conditions before conception."
Mrs. _____

Mother's Friend
"Proved its great value during delivery by the absence of the severe pains occasioned by such an event."
Mrs. _____

Mother's Friend
"Being an external remedy is of the greatest assistance in preparing the system for such a change."
Your druggist sells it. Write for free and interesting book on Motherhood.
The Bradford Regulator Co., 208 Lamar Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

OUR STOCK

Dodge Bros. Motor Cars
Hudson Super-Six
United States Tires and Tubes

Oils, Greases, Bumpers, Mud Chains, etc.

Bernard Motor Co., Inc.
GEO. S. TREICHLER, Pres. and Mgr. VAN R. PIERSON, Sec. and Treas.

PARIS GRIEVES OVER BUCHAREST'S FALL

PARIS, Dec. 7.—The news of the fall of Bucharest was received here with sorrow and mortification, although it had been regarded as inevitable since the battle of the Argechu was lost.

All of the newspapers say that the event must be a lesson to the allies, which ought to spur them on to more rapid and energetic action, and above all, to the organized and effective use of their common resources.

Some consolation is derived from Swiss dispatches, which report that notwithstanding the German victories in Rumania, the German 100 mark bill fell to 80 francs—the lowest price since the war, on the Zurich bourse.

AMPLE SUPPLY OF WATER
(Continued From Page One.)

ask the state engineer of Oregon or the water resources branch of the United States geological survey, Portland, Or. under whose supervision records of the water measurements have been taken. The report of the United States reclamation engineer, which was made at the request of the Farmers & Fruitgrowers' league of the Rogue River valley, states that there is sufficient water for 35,000 acres.

Canal Company's Offer.
The Canal company has offered the district water for 20,000 acres at \$40 per acre. The company will complete the entire canal from the intake to Willow Springs for this sum. The entire maintenance cost for the district of 20,000 acres is estimated at not to exceed \$1.75 per acre.

"The cost of construction, owing to increased price of labor and material, will be at least 20 per cent higher than it was last summer when this proposition was submitted. The reclamation service engineers carefully estimated the cost at that time to be \$40 per acre. Read that report, decide for yourself whether this is a fair proposition or not.

Formation of District.
The election to be held December 27 is to elect five directors. They cannot make a contract with any one for water, but must investigate every proposition put up to them. Inas-

much as all surveys and water measurements have been made, it will not be necessary for the directors to spend 5 cents per acre on investigations. After they decide on what they think is the best proposition, the land owners will vote to accept or reject the proposition. Thus it will be seen that the first election is only a stepping stone, and that the land owners have at all times the final say.

Exemptions.
"The district law provides that all lands on which water cannot be put by gravity, or which cannot be benefited by irrigation, shall be eliminated by the directors of the district."



The Cameo Revival

There was a time when every lady's jewel box contained a highly prized Cameo Set for use on dress occasions. Today the Cameo is quite the "fashionable thing," and this establishment is well prepared with a splendid collection of Cameo Brooches, coral and shell, in the plain, engraved and more elaborate mountings. Cameo Rings are quite the proper thing also. All articles bought here are Engraved Free of Charge.

Martin J. Reddy, The Jeweler
Visitors Always Welcome
Phone 10 Medford, Ore.

DIED
ENNEY—At the residence of H. S. Brumble, Medford, Or., December 6, Margaret M. Enney, wife of the late Stephen S. Enney. Mrs. Enney was a native of Cook county, Illinois, age 73 years. She leaves to mourn her loss, two daughters, Cora P. Wilson and Mable E. Brumble. Funeral services will be held at the Free Methodist church on Sunday, December 10, at 2 p. m., Rev. Smith officiating. Interment in I. O. O. F. cemetery.

Best Peck is spending a few days in Roseburg attending to business matters.

Warner Lenses
---for all cars

Master Dimmers
---for Fords

---both comply with the new dimmer ordinance

C. E. GATES

THE Closing Out Sale

Is a Great Opportunity for Christmas Shoppers since every year the custom is growing more to giving useful gifts and this sale offers unlimited opportunities for the Christmas Shoppers to save on these useful presents. Furs, Coats, Dresses, Skirts, Wool Middies, Umbrellas, Silk Hose, Handkerchiefs, Silk Petticoats, Padded Robes, Bath Robes, Silk and Crepe Kimonas, Jewelry, Novelties, Shell Goods, Hand Bags, Plumes, Hats, Ribbons, Character Dolls, Sweaters, and all of these and many more at Bargain Prices. All must go.

Dresses \$18 Still some beautiful models to choose from in Silk and Combination Dresses, actual values to \$42.50, now..... \$18.00	\$5 rack Suits and Coats Some dandy bargains on this rack in medium and light weight Coats, only four suits and about twenty Coats, values to \$25.00, closing out at..... \$5.00	Trimmed Hats \$1 Your choice of 75 Trimmed Hats, values to \$6.50, closing out sale..... \$1
Dress Skirts \$4.98 You may choose from the entire line of Dress Skirts, values to \$13.50, now..... \$4.98 Others at..... \$2.98 and \$3.98	\$10 rack of Coats About 23 Coats to choose from, mixtures, plaids and plain colors, closing out price..... \$10.00	Trimmed Hats \$2 Your choice of another big lot of Trimmed Hats, values to \$8, closing out price..... \$2.00
Rain Coats \$7.98 Goodrich Rubberized Rain Coats, absolutely defy the rain, \$13.50 values, now..... \$7.98 Other Rain Coats at..... \$3.98, \$9.98, \$11.98 and.....\$13.98	For \$14.00 Your choice of any Suit or Coat in stock, values to \$40, Friday and Saturday..... \$14.00	Trimmed Hats \$2.98, \$3.98 Your choice of the entire line of Trimmed Hats, patterns and all included, values to \$15.00, some beauties to choose from..... \$2.98, \$3.98
FURS At prices you will never be able to duplicate again—not cheap furs, but dependable furs. Large White Iceland Fox Set, value \$39.50, now..... \$22.50 Large Black Pointed Russian Wolf Set, \$32.50 value..... \$22.00 Japanese Mink Collar, \$24.50 value, now..... \$13.98 Russian Mink Muff, \$8.50 value, now..... \$4.98 The above are only a few sample prices—a \$1500 stock to choose from.	Sweaters \$6.50 Sweaters..... \$3.98 \$4.50 Sweaters..... \$2.69 \$5.00 Wool Middies..... \$3.39 \$4.50 Wool Middies..... \$2.98 \$8.50 White Serge Middies..... \$3.98 \$1.50 and \$2 Middies..... 98c \$3.00 Wool Waists..... 98c \$6.50 Lingerie Waists..... 98c \$7.50 Crepe and Lace Waists at..... \$3.98 \$6.00 Silk Petticoats..... \$3.39	Dolls Ribbons Ribbons, values to 45c, yd..... 19c Ribbons, values to \$1.25, yd..... 39c \$2 Velvets and Silks, yd..... 98c 75c Jap Silk, yd..... 39c 60c Ruchings, yd..... 19c Holiday Boxes..... 4c and 8c 75c Dolls..... 49c \$1.00 Dolls..... 79c \$1.25 and \$1.50 Dolls..... 98c

Holiday Hints for the Gift Buyer

AHRENS' CLOSING OUT SALE