

GAS MAKERS TO CLOSE PLANT IF RAISE REFUSED

The hearing of the application of the Oregon Gas and Electric company for permission to increase its rates was held before the state public service commission in the city council chamber today. The commission which has a hearing tomorrow in Grants Pass and the next day at Roseburg on the same application, expects to give an early decision.

The commission members present today were H. H. Corey and Fred A. Williams, and incidentally it was the initial appearance in public of the well known Grants Pass attorney as the new member of the commission. W. H. Ellis acted as examiner for the commission, and the gas company was represented by J. J. Kathrine of the head office at San Francisco, and by Mr. Jenkins, its local manager.

Increased Last June
On June 24th last the commission allowed the company's application for an increase in rates to \$2.19, the present price of gas. The first witness at today's hearing was Mr. Kathrine, secretary of the Oregon Gas & Electric company, who stated that at a recent director's meeting it was decided that owing to the company's continued losses in operating its properties they figured that it must have a raise of 50 cents per thousand feet or shut down the Medford-Ashland plant.

For Medford and Ashland from July 1 to Dec. 1, 1918, the company's earnings were \$13,663.80, he said, and expenses for the same period were \$18,205.71, showing a loss of \$4,541.91. According to his figures the cost of making gas was \$2.50 per 1000 cubic feet, which the company sold at an average price of \$1.32. He declared that the company had an investment of about \$400,000.

Inefficiency Claimed
Mayor Gates charged that the gas company was inefficiently managed and pointed out that at the previous hearing of the company's application to raise its rates, which was granted, the company laid stress on the fact the price of oil determined largely the cost of manufacturing gas. He declared that the cost of oil now was about the same as then.

In response to Mayor Gates' query of whether the company would guarantee that if the raise now asked for was granted it would continue to operate the plant, Secretary Kathrine said it would not. Gates then charged that if the company was given the increase asked for the situation would be worse than ever, as with the increase the company would have fewer customers.

Mr. Silliman, the candy manufacturer, testified that if the rate was raised he could not use gas for many purposes in his establishment that he now used it for.

This afternoon Fred A. Rasch, the commission's gas expert testified as to his investigations of the company's local plant.

HUN POISON GAS CAUSES TRAIN WRECK

PARIS, Feb. 6.—Five persons were killed and 16 injured in an accident last night on the Paris-Metz railway line. The accident occurred under circumstances which are puzzling the authorities.

As the train entered a tunnel two coaches, recently handed over by Germany, became filled with obnoxious gases. As soon as fresh air came in contact with the gases coaches became a mass of flames and the passengers fled in terror.

PORTLAND WORKERS REMAIN AT JOBS

PORTLAND, Feb. 6.—Labor leaders in Portland declared today they did not believe the metal workers' strike in Seattle would spread to this city. The Seattle situation will be discussed when the metal trades council meets tonight. As the individual unions would have to vote on any action, it was held that no strike would be likely here at least during the next ten days.

It is one of life's ironies that the saloon keeper in politics was largely the cause of the passage of the prohibition law.—Philadelphia Evening Ledger.

A Woman's Recommendation
Mrs. D. T. Tryor, Franklin Av., Osego, O., writes: "Nine years ago I was very much afflicted with kidney trouble. I bought different kinds of medicine, but all to no effect, until one day I bought a box of Foley Kidney Pills. I realized so great a benefit from the use of that box that I concluded myself cured of kidney trouble. I feel safe in recommending Foley Kidney Pills to any kidney sufferers. They relieve backache, sore muscles, stiff joints, rheumatic pains and bladder ailments. For sale by Medford Pharmacy."

Interesting News



NEW REVENUE BILL FINALLY AGREED TO BY CONGRESS

(Continued from page one.)

Extending the Reed "bone dry" prohibition law to the District of Columbia.

Increasing from \$25 to \$1,000 the tax on those dealing in intoxicants, including "stills" in prohibition territory.

Establishing an advisory tax board of six members in the treasury, and restricting sale and use of narcotics by strengthening the Harrison drug act.

The conferees made many important changes affecting income and war excess profits taxation, re-writing scores of amendments and virtually re-drafting a substantial part of the measure.

War Excess Profits
In agreeing upon war excess profits taxes (confined to corporations) the conferees struck out the house alternative plan to levy on war or excess profits according to the highest yield, adopting the senate composite plan. The pre-war period standard calendar years of 1911, 1912 and 1913 was retained as was the system of credits. Corporations with income less than \$3,000 are exempted. Other limitations are for a maximum excess profits tax of 30 per cent this year and 20 per cent in 1920 on income under \$20,000 plus 50 per cent in 1919 and 40 per cent thereafter on income over \$20,000.

Estate taxes are imposed at rates lower than existing law. With a general exemption of \$50,000 the new rates range from one to 75 per cent—the minimum on net taxable estates under \$50,000 (after deduction of allowances) and the maximum of 25 per cent on estates of \$10,000,000 and over. The existing graduated rates range from 2 per cent on estates under \$50,000 to 25 per cent on those exceeding \$10,000,000.

Transportation Taxes
The provision for taxes on transportation and other public facilities effective April 1, reduces from 10 to 8 per cent the levy on seats, berths and state room accommodation in sleeping or parlor cars, or on vessels; fixes the rate on telegraph, telephone, cable and radio messages at 5 cents on those costing 15 to 50 cents, and 10 cents on those above 50 cents instead of the present 5-cent flat charge on messages costing 15 cents and more, and imposes a new tax on private or leased telephone or telegraph wires, except press wires, of 10 per cent of rentals. In fixing the passenger transportation taxes, the conferees exempted commutation trips of less than 30 miles or fare paid under 42 cents.

Insurance taxes effective April 1, at virtually existing rates, based on policies written, were adopted. Beverage taxes, contingent on prohibition as adopted, are:

Taxes on Spirits
Distilled spirits for non-beverage purposes \$2.20 per proof gallon, the present rate; distilled spirits manufactured, imported or withdrawn for beverage purposes \$6.40 per gallon, double existing law, but with a "relief" provision suspending certain charges on spirits held in bond by prohibition; beer and other fermented

beverages \$6 per barrel, double present law; wines, double existing rates based on alcoholic content, also with a prohibition "relief" provision permitting distillation of wines for industrial purposes; cereal beverages, or "near beer" 15 per cent on sales, a new tax; grape juice, ginger ale, root beer, pop, artificial mineral or carbonated waters and the beverages and similar soft drinks, 10 per cent on manufacturers' sales; natural mineral waters two cents per gallon.

A new tax, effective May 1 next, is one cent on each 10 cents or fraction of retailers' sales of ice cream, soda water, sundaes and similar confections or drinks, to be paid by consumers.

Taxes Upon Cigars
Cigar rates fixed by the conferees range from \$1.50 per thousand to \$15 per thousand, a 50 per cent increase on cigars sold in excess of 20 cents each. Cigarettes are taxed \$3 per thousand instead of \$2.05 on those weighing not more than three pounds per thousand and \$7.20 per thousand instead of \$4.80 on cigarettes weighing more.

Tobacco and snuff are taxed 18 cents a pound, an increase of 5 cents. Stringent provisions were adopted by the conferees to regulate dealers in leaf tobacco.

Amusement admission taxes in the bill, effective April 1, were increased only in a few instances, the general rate of one cent on each ten cents or fraction paid being retained.

Club dues are taxed 10 per cent upon members of organizations charging more than \$10 annually. Excise or manufacturers' sales tax, including so-called luxuries covering a wide range of articles, include:

Taxes Upon Autos
Automobiles, trucks, and wagons, exempting tractors and their tires, and accessories, three percent; auto-

mobiles and motorcycles and accessories, five percent; pianos, organs, (excepting pipe organs) players, talking machines, music boxes and records 5 percent.

Sporting or athletic goods, etc., 10 percent; chewing gum three per cent; cameras 10 percent; photographic films and plates five percent; candy five percent; fire arms and portable electric fans five percent; thermos bottles five percent; fur articles 10 percent; yachts and motor boats, for pleasure purposes and canoes costing more than \$15, ten per cent; toilet soaps and soap powders, three percent; sculpture, painting, and other art-works 10 percent with tax exemption for those sold to educational institutions or public art museums.

Taxes on Luxuries
Semi-luxury taxes of 10 percent, effective May 1 next, are retained, although subject to modification later by separate resolution. They are to be charged consumers of high-priced articles of personal wear, and returnable to the treasury by retailers. The 10 per cent tax is levied on the excess paid above cost standards prescribed for various articles, including the following:

Carpets and rugs, except of wool, \$5 per square yard; picture frames \$10 each; trunks \$50; valises, traveling bags, suit cases, hat boxes and fitted toilet cases \$25; purses, pocket books, shopping and hand bags \$7.50; portable lighting fixtures, including lamps and shades \$25; umbrellas, parasols and sunshades \$4; fans \$1; house or smoking coats or jackets and bath or lounging robes \$7.50; men's separate waist coats \$5; women's and misses' hats, bonnets and hoods \$15; men's and boys' hats \$5; men's and boys' caps \$2; boots, shoes, pumps and slippers, \$10 per pair, with special appliances for crippled persons exempted; men's and

boys' neckties and neckwear \$2; men's and boys' silk stockings or hose \$1 per pair; women's and misses' silk stockings or hose \$2 per pair; men's shirts \$3 each; pajamas, night gowns and underwear \$3 each; kimonos, petticoats and waists \$15 each.

Jewelry and Gems
Jewelry and imitations, precious stones, clocks, watches and similar articles are taxed five percent effective April 1, when sold by dealers.

Moving picture lessees or licensees are taxed five percent of their total monthly rentals in lieu of the present footage tax on films.

Perfumes, toilet waters, cosmetics, tooth and mouth washes, pills, powders, patent medicines and similar articles are subject to a retail sales tax, effective May 1, and payable by purchasers, of one cent on each 25 cents paid, in lieu of present stamp tax.

SWIFT CONTRIBUTED TO TWO CONGRESSMEN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Swift and company contributed to the campaign funds of Representative Rodenburg of Illinois in 1912 and Representative Tazgart of Kansas in 1915. Henry Veeder, counsel for Swift and company, testified during cross examination today by Francis J. Heney before the senate agriculture committee. Mr. Veeder said these were the only cases he knew of in which such contributions were made.

Daily Health Talks

The Troubles Women Have
By L. MAC LEAN, M. D.

Probably no man in America was ever better qualified to successfully treat the diseases peculiar to women than Dr. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y. The cases that come to him run into many thousands, giving him an experience that rarely comes to any one man. Dr. Pierce found that in nearly every case there were certain vegetable growths which rarely failed to give prompt relief in those feminine disorders from which so many women suffer. He combined these roots and herbs into a temperance medicine that he called Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, for that is precisely what it was. This medicine is sold in both liquid and tablet form by druggists everywhere. Favorite Prescription is a distinct remedy for women and acts directly upon the organs that characterize the sex. It is not necessary to take a long course of treatment with this standard medicine. A weakly, sickly, backache, headache, nervous, despondent woman, with regular or irregular pains—with feminine disorders that come in youth or middle age—is pretty sure to find in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription the exact remedy that her condition calls for, and to find it after a very few doses are taken. Why women should allow themselves to stay sick when a very little money spent for this remedy will probably make them well, is something no one can explain.

All women who suffer from feminine disorders are invited to write the Faculty of the Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., for free confidential consultation and advice, no charge being made for this high professional service. This will enable every woman to benefit by the advice of the distinguished corps of physicians which Dr. Pierce has gathered about him in his celebrated Buffalo Institution.

When constipation is present with feminine disorders, Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets should be taken along with Favorite Prescription. Try now!

LONDON STRIKE EXTENDING TO RAILROAD LINES

LONDON, Feb. 6.—The government today was still maintaining its attitude that it could not interfere in the strikes now in progress for the reason that they were solely industrial controversies, but the great inconvenience which the London public is suffering has prompted government measures of relief. These were initiated by the starting of a military motor service in London's streets.

More than 1,000 motor lorries were manned by military drivers. It is estimated that they will be able to carry 250,000 persons daily. Only bona fide workers are picked up. No fare is charged.

The strike of the waiters and cooks in the hotels and restaurants is still inconveniencing thousands of Londoners, but the situation was somewhat improved this morning.

The first step in the direction of threatened extension of railroad strike beyond the local lines in London was taken last night when some of the drivers on the Brighton and the southwestern roads were called out. Early trains to the suburbs from

Waterloo station, the London terminal of the southwestern, were not started this morning.

A New Hot Lunch at Crowson's

We have arranged a number of tasty and pleasing combination luncheons from which to choose. We are featuring hot biscuits with nearly all of them.



STARTS TOMORROW

Life is one d—n after another for



HAROLD LOCKWOOD
but he wins in the end in PALS FIRST



We're Expecting You Tonight

LAST TIMES TONIGHT

REX BEACH'S **TOO FAT TO FIGHT**

555 People Saw It Last Night

Watch and Wait for Mann's Big Remnant Sale Saturday

LIBERTY TAXI 33
With new Dodge car. Stationed at 16 N. Front St. Hale & Lyon, Props. Phone 33

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All our work strictly guaranteed to be first class. 15 N. Fir St., Medford Phone 434-J MEDFORD VULCANIZING WORKS

Post Toasties

"Everyone Likes 'Em" — says Bobby

No Wonder! Compare—**POST TOASTIES**

with ordinary corn flakes and you realize the difference at once.

Many of the best citizens in this city would be only too anxious to visit a good clairvoyant if they were first assured of satisfaction. By this remarkable "Yogi Philosopher," thru which she is enabled to reveal to you with unerring accuracy your past as you alone know it, your present as it is, and your future exactly as it will be.

Mme. FAY
Reads Your Life from Infancy to Old Age. She Points Out the Way and Directs Your Steps Toward the Good for Which Nature Fitted You.

A Genuine Mystic; Makes No Claims; Her Work Speaks for Itself
Located 43 North Grape street. Private residence.

You Get What Your Doctor Prescribes

—scientific accuracy
—speed, and
—absolute honesty

are added to every doctor's prescription you bring to be filled at our store.

West Side Pharmacy The Rexall Store

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
AND
THE PROBLEMS OF PEACE

A Sunday Evening Lecture by
L. Myron Boozer

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, February 9. 7:30 p. m.
Seating Capacity Limited to 350