

## To Confer On Rate Making April 18

The Federal Power Commission at Washington, D. C. announced that beginning Monday, April 18, the advisory board of the Bonneville Dam will meet with Administrator J. D. Ross in Portland for the purpose of cooperating with the administrator in devising a rate schedule.

The board consisting of Col. T. M. Robins of the Army Engineers, Roger B. McWhorter of the Federal Power Commission, A. G. Selby of the Department of Agriculture, and Frank Banks of the Reclamation Service will go over the rate schedule already set up by Ross. Once approved by them the schedule will be sent east or perhaps taken east by Mr. Ross. Here the Federal Power Commission will check it once again and announce it to the world.

It is expected that the rates now will be announced around the first of May. The local advisory board will probably not take very long in its analysis and then the Federal Power Commission should not take too long since one of their men attended all of the hearings held by Ross throughout the Northwest. Another member of this federal commission has been working up till the past week in connection with Ross' office in Portland.

Just how the area will fare in the rates scramble remains to be seen. Much has been said for and against J. D. Ross since he has taken this office of administrator. To date nothing but words have been the basis of judging the plans of Ross.

And many times, we are informed, Mr. Ross has been misquoted. The fun will begin in earnest when the rates are announced.

### TELEPHONE TAXES HIGH

Total taxes of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in Oregon on its operations in 1937 were \$1,226,659, or an average of \$9.04 per telephone for the year—more than 75c per month. The total 1937 taxes were the highest in history for the Company in Oregon.

This was made known this week by the company, with the payment to the Hood River County tax collector of \$2,986.83 for real and personal property taxes, with the discount for prompt payment.

Total real and personal property operating taxes now being paid by the company in Oregon are \$785,468.33 which, with federal, franchise, social security, and miscellaneous taxes, make up the \$1,226,659 grand total.

### BUS BAR RATES

(Continued from Page One)  
Power will be distributed strictly in accordance with the president's policy of the "widest possible use," said the administrator. He explained:

"Although our schedules are not yet completed, I can say that our rates will give first consideration to home and farm users. In the words of President Roosevelt, Bonneville

will 'help all the people of the region without unduly favoring any one locality or discriminating against any other.'

### Public Districts Favored

"Under the law signed by the president I am directed to give preference in the sale of Bonneville power to public districts. Statements that the president is opposed to such districts are contrary to fact. He wishes districts and cities to have first chance to distribute electricity from Bonneville. However, the people may choose any agency they wish, public or private."

Administrator Ross' statement was made on the eve of the seven-county public utility district election.

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