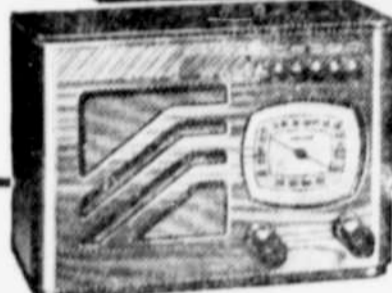


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Ideal Rates Explained by Administrator

The "objective" schedule of rates to residential consumers for Bonneville power purchased from public agencies, announced Tuesday, is neither a maximum nor a minimum scale, it was emphasized.

"The schedule is a mark for public bodies to shoot at," said Administrator J. D. Ross.

Each public utility district, municipality or co-operative purchasing power from Bonneville at the wholesale price of \$17.50 per kilowatt year for prime power will be required to

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"follow the form of the objective schedule," Mr. Ross said.

It will be expected to fix its rates according to a formula that will assure a sound, self-supporting utility, he said. It must maintain an accounting system to provide for payment of fixed and operating expenses and taxes.

Surplus funds may be used in three ways—to reduce rates, extend the distributing system and pay off its own bonds.

Districts to Control

"Full control thus is left to the public districts and cities," Mr. Ross said. "The Bonneville project sets only the objective rate. There is no minimum, no final rate. The schedule is flexible and may be modified to meet changing conditions."

"I shall welcome the comments of city officials, power commissioners, district sponsors and co-operative association members."

The Bonneville act gives the administrator authority to regulate by contract, the rates to be charged consumers.

Mr. Ross admitted that he faces a more complicated problem in attempting to regulate the rates that a private utility company buying some of its electricity from Bonneville should charge its customers.

He said he saw no reason, however, why private companies could not gradually reduce their rates to reach the "ideal" schedule he proposed Tuesday for public systems.

Public Agencies Favored

The Bonneville act reserves 50 per cent of the project's output until January 1, 1941, for public agencies and gives such agencies priority at all times in the purchase of power.

The Bonneville "ideal" schedule is somewhat lower than the TVA schedule under which Knoxville and some other cities are buying power, that is: Three cents per kilowatt hour for the first 50 kilowatt hours per month, 2 cents for the next 150, one cent for the next 200, 4 mills for the next 100 and 7½ mills for all over 1000.

Portland consumers pay 5 cents a kilowatt hour for the first 34 kilowatt hours, 3 cents for the next 40 and 1.8 cents for all above that, with a special off-peak heating rate of 8 of a cent.

Mr. Ross left Tuesday noon for Walla Walla, and will continue to Washington, D. C., to make his annual report and seek recommendations from the budget committee for additional congressional appropriations for transmission lines.

Needed Lines Listed

Lines needed most, in addition to those under construction or contracted, are branches to Pendleton and into Idaho, a line to the Oregon coast to tap the Tillamook section and several in Washington, Mr. Ross said.

It has been decided to construct a 110,000-volt extension from Kelso to Centralia, and sufficient funds are available to pay for it, Mr. Ross disclosed.

Paul B. McKee, president of Pacific Power & Light company, which through the agency of Northwestern Electric company already is buying some power from Bonneville on an experimental basis, said he had discussed the "ideal" schedule with Mr. Ross.

"They seem to be logically arranged in a flexible way to meet all the different operating conditions that would be encountered in various sections as well as varying amounts of bonded debt," said Mr. McKee.

"Of course as Mr. Ross indicates in referring to 'fixed and operating costs' this flexibility of rates in unavoidable as revenue bonds cannot be sold without a guarantee to maintain adequate rates to cover them."

"My information from Mr. Ross is that the rates will be adjustable upward as far as 200 per cent at any time and in any place so as to provide for these estimated requirements."

"The actual retail price to consumers in any particular region after the first year will therefore depend upon how much of the 200 per cent leeway will have to be applied to this basic schedule to take care of operating costs, which will vary according to management, and bond charges, which will depend upon prices paid for the properties and other conditions."

"My assumption is based on the history of the private power industry and especially on the experience of the Pacific Power & Light company, which has succeeded in bringing its average residential rates down to 2.50 cents, a reduction of more than half in the past ten years."



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R. Waldo Arens

Candidate for COUNTY COMMISSIONER States His Platform

As candidate for County Commissioner, in the coming election, I wish to state my position in regard to County Business.

I have been a resident, grower and taxpayer of this county for twenty-seven years, so know how to cut expenses in the lean years, and I will endeavor to apply same principles to the business of running the county, should I be elected.

The condition of the roads this past summer has demonstrated that our road system will not stand up under the present heavy, fast traffic. The county will have to surface the main roads, as funds can be made available. I think that the main arteries should be checked as to actual tonnage going over each, then surfacing the heaviest used roads first.

The needy should be taken care of as quickly as possible and the able bodied on relief should be made to realize that they should give a dollar's worth of labor for every dollar spent on relief, just as they would for private enterprise.

The county should stay out of the orcharding business and not try to run orchards that individuals run at a loss, except where necessary to keep a good orchard from deteriorating too rapidly.

Put the county-owned real estate back on the tax roll just as quickly as possible.

Transact all county business at regular open meetings and have full set of minutes available to the public soon after each meeting.

(Paid advertisement by R. Waldo Arens)

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