

CASCADE LOCKS CHRONICLE

AND THE BONEVILLE DAM CHRONICLE

Vol. V, Number 52

CASCADE LOCKS

BONEVILLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1939

Bonneville Power Rates Discussed

Savings in retail distribution is the key to cheap Columbia River power for home and industry, and that is the responsibility of the people of each community.

This statement of policy was issued by the Department of the Interior in a pamphlet setting forth wholesale and retail prices for power from Bonneville Dam. It points out that distribution lines are idle more than half the time and make up the major expense to electric users. Northwest consumers are assured they can get 2 to 5 times as much power for their money if they "load up" these partially used lines through the plentiful use of Columbia River power.

The pamphlet—"Bonneville Power; What Is Costs, How to Get It"—explains what the "kilowatt-year" means in terms of electricity in the home and on the farm. Under the objective schedule recommended for public districts and cities, a bill of approximately \$2 a month will pay for lighting the average home and in addition pay for energy to operate a refrigerator, radio, iron, washing machine, toaster, vacuum cleaner and electric mangle. It will also run a deep-well water pump for farm use at no extra cost.

Such retail prices, it is indicated, will be within reach of districts and cities operating as public monopolies. Competitive systems probably will charge somewhat higher rates at the start because of duplication of facilities. Domestic consumers are warned not to expect lowered rates unless new distribution policies are adopted.

"Merely passing along savings from reduced generating costs will mean little to the average consumer, perhaps 20c a month," the pamphlet says. "But slash distribution expenses, eliminate padded charges, and operate honestly and efficiently, and power bills can be cut in two. Whatever system—public or private—a community decides to adopt for marketing Bonneville power, distribution costs must be brought down."

A map of the initial Bonneville network shows that 25 county-wide public districts have been formed in Washington and four smaller units in Oregon. At the present time 27 communities in Washington operate their power systems. Fourteen city-owned electric plants are listed for Idaho and ten for Oregon. The map also indicates the location of cooperative electric associations in the three states and the substations being constructed along the Bonneville network.

The Bonneville pamphlet says that immediate action is essential if communities wish to assure themselves of a supply of Columbia River power. Under the law, first power must go to public districts, cities and cooperative associations. Future lines will be constructed to serve communities prepared to distribute the energy.

Wholesale rates for Bonneville electricity are based on computations of the Federal Power Commission, which will pay off within 40 years the entire cost allocated to power. They also will pay 3½% interest, nearly 1% more than the cost of the money to the federal government. The pamphlet points out that nearly 12 million kilowatts of water power are available in the Northwest, and that sale of this electricity can help pay for navigation and irrigation projects on the Snake and Columbia Rivers.

The illustrated rate pamphlet may be consulted in any public library in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Copies are available to consumers, city officials, clubs, students and utility investors at the Bonneville Project offices, 811 Northeast Oregon Street, Portland, Oregon.

Mrs. J. J. Miestrell and son, Marvin, made a business trip to Gresham Monday.

SOFTBALLERS EYE SEASON

With their fund-raising dance out of the way, the Bonneville softballers are looking forward to an early start on a lively Mid-Columbia league. It is hoped that in the league this summer will be the following teams: Hood River, Wyeth CCC, White Salmon, Stevenson, Willard, The Dalles and possibly a team from Cascade Locks.

Business Action Urged on Power

Bonneville Dam can lead Oregon and Washington to the top ranks of business recovery if local merchants awake to the sales possibilities of every kilowatt-hour of Columbia River power available for their community.

Charles E. Carey, Acting Bonneville Administrator, gave that message to appliance dealers and utility executives who gathered at the Portland Electric Club to hear his first public address since his appointment as temporary power chief. Carey pointed out that business men should not content themselves solely with the immediate benefits of the \$14,000,000 Bonneville construction program, but should prepare to realize the more important profits that low-cost power in their own areas can bring them.

\$500 Sales Per Kilowatt

"Every dollar spent for generators at Bonneville Dam will be followed by five dollars spent by consumers for electric refrigeration. That money will be spent in Oregon and Washington communities if Bonneville power is retailed at a price low enough for people to use it plentifully. In fact, every kilowatt of Bonneville power will result in \$500 in appliance and utilization sales in communities out at the end of the line. And, remember, there are going to be half a million kilowatts on those lines."

Carey emphasized the immediate benefits that could accrue from the sale of power to homes and farms, pointing out that \$2 is received from domestic customers for every dollar paid by industrial and commercial users. He cited figures from Electrical World showing that farm and home power usage was increasing far more rapidly than other types, and that 24,000,000 out of 27,000,000 electrical customers are in the home and on the farm.

"Bonneville Dam was built not merely to stimulate employment and improve navigation, but to spread the benefits of cheap power to as many people as possible. The law compels us to give public districts and city-owned systems preference to every kilowatt of power, and even requires us to cancel contracts with private utilities upon five years' notice to serve public and cooperative groups. Business men must realize that fact and govern themselves accordingly if they are to benefit from the tremendous appliances sales that can come when, as and if cheap Bonneville power is distributed in their communities."

ANNUAL CARNIVAL PLANNED

The Annual High School Carnival has been scheduled for April 7 at the Cascade Locks High School. Booths featuring novelties, clairvoyants, spooks, candies, soft drinks, pie, cake and excellent coffee will be a feature and prizes will include an I.E.S. bridge lamp, a radio, electric clocks, etc. Staple and fancy groceries and a choice of meats from local meat shops will be other prizes. T. J. Langton, principal of the school announced. The affair is an annual occurrence, given as a benefit for the Cascade Locks High School. Everybody is invited, Mr. Langton announced.

The affair is an annual occurrence, given as a benefit for the Cascade Locks High School. Everybody is invited, Mr. Langton announced.

OFFICERS RENAMED

Officers of the Hood River County chapter of the American Red Cross were reelected at a meeting of this organization Wednesday evening of last week. The officers who will serve during the coming year are: R. E. Steele, chairman; Hal Nesbit, vice-chairman; Mrs. Walter Colby, secretary; and C. C. Lindley, treasurer.

Grand Jury Returns No Indictments

At the end of a two-day session of the Hood River County Grand Jury, completed Wednesday evening, no indictments were recommended in the two cases studied.

Rex Kimmell, assistant attorney general of the state of Oregon, conducted the investigation. One of the cases was an investigation in the transactions and circumstances connected with the purchase of a rock crusher by the Hood River county commissioners. The other case was in connection with the publishing by County Assessor George Knox of a circular, prior to the November election. The circular was said to contain charges reflecting on J. D. Smullin, then a commissioner and candidate for reelection.

In recommendations in the case of the rock crusher, the Grand Jury's report stated: "This investigation has disclosed to this Grand Jury that the business of the County in connection with the matters investigated has been conducted in a very irregular and inexcusable manner in that no public records have been made of the proceedings or special meetings, which records it is the duty of the County Clerk to keep; it has been conducted informally and without due consideration of all the members of the County Court and generally in a manner naturally tending to subject the public officials involved to justifiable criticism. This Grand Jury feels that these practices should cease and in the future all county business should be conducted strictly and solely in the manner provided by law."

In the Knox case, the jury stated: "The evidence does not warrant the conviction of said George M. Knox of violation of any of the criminal laws of this state. However, we further find that the conduct of said George M. Knox in distributing derogatory circulars or other literature throughout the county, either as campaign propaganda or otherwise, is reprehensible and inexcusable and is therefore condemned."

Members of the Grand Jury were: Foreman, Allison Fletcher, Hildred Rhoades, Alva L. Day, John E. Plog, A. L. Paddock, J. B. Edington and H. R. McIsaac.

Ickes Supports Ross' Policy

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes Saturday sent to the public utility districts of Washington assurance that the power policies of J. D. Ross will be continued by the next Bonneville Administrator.

This message was brought to the board of directors of the Washington Public Utility Commissioners' Association by Charles E. Carey, Acting Administrator of the Bonneville Project, who read a telegram from Secretary Ickes. Carey, who also spoke later in the morning before commissioners of the 25 Washington districts, interpreted the Secretary's statement as a guaranty that the Bonneville public power program will be carried forward with renewed vigor.

Commissioners of the 25 public power districts who gathered in the headquarters of the Washington State Grange at Seattle, heard Acting Administrator Carey stress the need for districts to speed up their preparations to distribute Bonneville power. "In line with the policies announced by Secretary Ickes, we are hastening construction of our 640-mile transmission network so Columbia River energy will be available to a large portion of the population by the end of this year," he said.

The public power representatives met in Seattle this week to formulate a program for coordinated acquisition by their districts of the properties operated by the private utility companies.

FRIENDLY SUIT TO BE STARTED

Tonight at the city hall at an adjourned meeting of the city council action will be taken which will start the agreed case for the carrying the Cascade Locks bond issue for the purchase of the West Coast system to the supreme court.

It is expected that the suit will be instituted in the Circuit Court at Hood River the first of next week. From there it will go to the Supreme Court.

Newspaper Man To Address Forum

On Sunday, April 2, 1939, at 7:30 p. m., Mr. Palmer Hoyt, Publisher of the "Oregonian" will speak at the Auditorium in Bonneville, Oregon, at a meeting of the Bonneville Sunday Evening Club.

Mr. Hoyt's subject, "Democracy and the Newspapers," will be sure to prove of interest to all of us.

After the address an open forum will be held—time being limited to 3 minutes for each speaker.

Singing will be conducted by Mr. Fraser, and numbers by the Bonneville Quartet are to be a part of the program.

Everyone is invited.

PROJECTORS IN PLACE IN NEW THEATRE

Two projection machines were in place in the new Community Theatre in Cascade Locks this week and three men were working on the installation of the sound system.

The heating air conditioning system was first turned on Wednesday afternoon and in a very short time had the damp air of drying concrete turned to warm fresh air.

The opening is rather uncertain; it appears that it will be before the fifteenth. It is not known as yet when the seats will arrive and how long it will take to put them in.

WORK STARTS ON PROTECTION WALL

When the tail water Tuesday below the powerhouse came up to within nine inches of the top of the concrete wall on the lower side, the Hoffman Construction Company, powerhouse builders, started work on the raising of this wall four feet to protect against future high waters. The water yesterday had dropped 18 inches from this high point.

The holes are finally pumped out and mucking has begun. A car load of gravel arrived yesterday so that before long the work should be going full blast.

CHARLES D. HAYNER

Word was received this week by Mrs. Cora M. Binns from Mrs. Ruby Hayner telling of the death of her husband, Charles D. Hayner. He died suddenly at his home in Wasco Saturday, March 18, 1939. He was born at Cherry Valley, Ill., April 11, 1861, and was married to Ruby D. Moore June 3, 1885, at Hood River, Ore. She survives him, also three daughters, Mrs. P. A. Rodgers of San Luis Obispo, Ca., Mrs. Ada LaBau of Portland, and Mrs. E. P. Rich of Wasco.

Eugene Utilities Net \$365,458

EUGENE—Showing the highest operating revenue in its history, the Eugene water board had a net operating income of \$365,458.13 for the year 1938, it was revealed in the annual report submitted to the board Monday night.

The 1938 figure is compared to that of \$316,806.83 net utility operating income for 1937, which in turn was higher than the one for 1936, which was \$288,610.87.

Figuring the net income, other income and income deductions, such as debt retirement and bond expenses, the report shows a total net income for the year as follows: Electric utility, \$279,195.50; water utility, \$63,039.07, or a total of \$342,234.57. For 1937 the comparable figure was \$293,057.81, and for 1936, \$252,199.54.

Schools To Compete for Prize Tickets

Thirty-five dollars in tickets to the new Cascade Locks Community Theatre is the prize that the students of the Bonneville and Cascade Locks school children will strive for in the first Cascade Locks Chronicle subscription contest, to be held during the month of April, beginning today.

The contest is strictly a community enterprise undertaking in that it benefits three public enterprises. The subscription price of the Chronicle is one dollar a year. Twenty-five cents out of each subscription turned in during the month of April will go to the room or student body fund of the pupil selling the ticket.

The prizes will be purchased from the new theatre to help it on its way to success. What's left will go into the coffers of the Chronicle to help make the Chronicle a more worthy news organ.

The prizes of tickets go to the individuals selling the most tickets are divided as follows: Grand prize for selling the most tickets of any child in the entire dam area will be five dollars of theatre tickets. For the most sold in each school two and one-half dollars worth of tickets will be given. For the four highest sellers in each room of the three schools one dollar's worth will be given.

No person shall receive more than one prize.

Credit will be given on a new or renewal subscription. Students will give the purchaser a receipt and then the Chronicle office will send a regular receipt to the subscriber.

Subscribers may pay for several years in advance or for several years in arrears. Credit will be given on all.

The contest has the O. K. of all school officials and receipt books are in the hands of the teachers who will each week report progress of the contest in their respective room.

The contest is on and residents may expect to be solicited beginning today. Remember, a subscription to the Chronicle helps the schools, helps the Community Theatre and, incidentally, helps the paper that endeavors to keep you informed on the happenings of the area.

Bids Opened For High Towers

Construction of the huge towers which will carry Bonneville power across the Columbia River at Bradford Island will cost more than \$30,000. Bids opened last week at the offices of the Bonneville Project ranged from \$30,115 to \$51,750 for erection of the structures which will bear the heavy transmission cables.

In addition to erection costs, materials costing \$41,580 will be purchased from the Lehigh Structural Steel Company. Several thousand dollars of additional funds will be spent to light the towers, which will be landmarks visible from airplanes hundreds of miles away at night.

More than half a million pounds of steels will go into the four towers, two of which will be 321 feet above the level of the river. The spans of the transmission lines looping across the Columbia will be more than half a mile in length. Construction of the towers will begin within ten days after award of the contract, Acting Administrator Charles E. Carey announced. Erection will be completed within 94 days.

PREPARE FOR FESTIVAL

Pupils of the fourth, fifth and sixth grades of the Cascade Locks High School are practicing for the folk dance for the Music Festival at Hood River. Those chosen to take part are: Betty Jean Clarke, Darryl Gillman, Donald Hayes, Mary Fillion, Helen Jenkins and George Martin.