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WATER WORKS COSTS ARE CUT

To Replace Deisel Engine With Electric Motor.

NEW LOW TARIFF RATE

Will Save City About \$1,- 500 Per Year in Water Department.

A material saving of about \$1,500 per year will be effected by the city of Vernonia, it is estimated, by changing from the use of the present semi-Deisel engine now in use to pump water to an electric motor for that purpose.

The councilmen Monday night at the special meeting were unanimously in favor of the change proposed by City Attorney Sheeley, who has spent much time the past month perfecting a new tariff of rates, which were agreed to by the Vernonia Light & Power company, with the consent of Judge Stevenson of the circuit court in Portland.

Mr. Sheeley said that he was assured that the public service commission would favor the rate agreed upon by all parties concerned. The minimum tariff will be one and one-half cents per kilowatt hour because the city will be using surplus electricity between midnight and sundown.

Under the present system the 37.5 horsepower semi-Deisel engine costs \$103 per month for crude oil and its transportation, besides about \$25 per month for repairs. The city pays one man \$110 per month to stay there and keep the engine in operation. But little attention would be required for the electric motors.

It is planned to install a 5 horsepower motor to pump the water from Rock creek to the filters and a 40 horsepower motor to pump the water from the filters to the reservoir. A material saving of about \$1500 a year will be effected, which will retire the bonds in about half the time expected.

The regular power rate now for the first 30 kilowatts is 8 cents, for the next 60, six cents; all in excess is 3 cents. The rate to the city for the pumping plant under the special tariff will be 8 cents for the first 30 kilowatts, 6 cents for the next 60, 3 cents for the next 500, 2 cents for the next 2000 and all in excess at 1.5 cents.

After reaching the 2590 kilowatts the city will be getting one-half of the present minimum rate. This will go into effect January 9, 33 days after the new tariff was filed. Use of the surplus power, however, still gives regular light and power users preference in case of a shortage.

In summer, when the power company has difficulty getting enough water for power, there will be little or no surplus, and then the city will have to resort to the use of the Deisel engine again. The city has the right, however, to use electricity for pumping purposes in case of fire.

It is expected that the city recorder will advertise for bids for installation of the motors next week, and that in about three weeks the new system will be working. The total expense of motors and installation will be saved in about six months under the new plan, it is believed.

In hearing the protests against assessments for the improvement district work recently completed, the council informed Dr. Ella Wight, who complained of drainage water covering her land, that work next spring would eliminate the trouble, and that for this winter, a ditch would be dug to carry away the waste.

Auxiliary Meeting Postponed.

Because of the bad roads between here and St. Helens the proposed meeting of the Legion and Auxiliary posts of that place and Vernonia in the Legion hall here last night was postponed until some time in January.

BOREAS BREATHES COLD BLAST HERE

With a steady drop in temperature starting here Saturday afternoon, and a light snowfall, it steadily grew colder until Sunday night a freezing temperature was reached.

Monday and Tuesday the temperature dropped again, with reports of frozen waterpipes, radiators, etc., quite prevalent. Tuesday and Wednesday saw Vernonia covered with a mantle of snow and a rise in temperature.

McGraw Is Elected Head Of Vernonia Legion Post

With an impromptu rally, with drums and horns on a car being used by a few members to make all the noise possible, and placards extolling Schwab for treasurer, a spirited meeting of the American Legion post was held Tuesday evening, with election of officers as follows:

H. E. McGraw, commander; A. W. Alexander, vice-commander; L. Schwab, adjutant; Geo. McGee, R. La Rocque, D. J. Hattan, executive committee; E. H. Washburn, sergeant-at-arms; Fred Brewer, chaplain; J. C. Lindley, finance officer. An invitation was extended by the Legion to Mac's band to use their hall for practicing, since the dance hall burned, where the band formerly practiced.

Not Responsible For Coyle Dance Hall Fire

Because Tuesday of last night was the regular time, and Coyle's dance hall the regular place for the weekly practice of Mac's band and orchestra, it has been rumored that it might have been through their carelessness that the building burned.

Mac's band and orchestra practiced at the home of Walter Repass on Tuesday evening, December 7. After the practice Mr. and Mrs. Repass served the band with refreshments, which were said to have been much enjoyed then, but more so now, since they are congratulating themselves they did not have their weekly practice in the hall that evening.

Alarmed at Rate Change Proposed for Inland Haul

Portland, Dec. 11.—An effort by railroad interests to change rules regarding shipments of lumber from New England seaports to inland points is being made, and the growing trade in west coast lumber in the northeastern states is vitally concerned, according to a dispatch from Boston published in the Four L Lumber News here. Says the report from Boston:

"The modification and revision of rules governing charges on rail shipments of lumber from New England railroads, is in effect equivalent to an advance in rates. Vigorous opposition is being made by shippers and distributors of Pacific coast lumber products.

"A hearing on the proposition of the railroads was held here last week before the New England Freight association of the south station. In view of the large and increasing shipments of lumber from Pacific coast ports of both the United States and Canada by sea to Boston, Mass., Portland Me., Providence, R. I., New London, Conn., and other new England seaports the proposed change has aroused wide interest. The existing practice has provided that the carlot minimum rate be granted to any surplus lumber in excess of a full car, if it be in the same shipment. The shipper or consignee has thus had the benefit of the lowest rail rate for the entire shipment regardless of whether or not it happened to fill completely only one or more cars. That is, if a lot of Douglas fir from a Boston cargo were loaded here for a customer in Worcester, Mass., and it could not be loaded in two cars but required a third car partly filled, under the existing rules the entire shipment would be given the minimum full carlot rate."

St. Helens to Celebrate.

With the observance of the official opening of the new pulp mill in St. Helens Saturday, that city will celebrate the occasion with festivities in the afternoon, a free supper and a dance in the evening. All are invited. Guides will show people through the new mill if they care to inspect it.

NEW OFFICERS ARE ELECTED BY I. O. O. F.

New officers elected by the local Odd Fellows lodge are: O. E. Enstrom, N. G.; M. E. Graven, V. G.; G. B. Smith, Sec.; S. D. Cameron, Treasurer.

PLEA IS MADE FOR NEAR EAST CHILDREN

One upon a time there was a country that little children called "The land that Santa Claus forgot."

The land is still there and the little children too. It is the Bible land country—the very same land where Jesus took little children in His arms and blessed them. There are 35,000 wistful tots—nearly every one an orphan.

In biting zero weather, amid drifting snow turned into crimson by their bleeding feet, without shelter, are huddled at this moment, little children.

Cities and villages destroyed, people buried alive, food supplies ruined and American orphanages wrecked by devastating earthquakes in Armenia.

Anxiously, these unfortunate people await America's response. If funds permit, the Near East relief will minister to 80,000 homeless people who face the long severe winter of the Caucasus. Their clothing and bedding are buried under tons of debris and stones, now frozen into a solid mass after having been soaked by days of rain, sleet and snow. Their poultry and cattle have been killed and half of the food supply of the entire region destroyed.

The following is a paragraph from a letter just received by J. J. Handsaker, northwest regional director of the Near East Relief, of Portland from C. C. Thirber who, two years ago, visited this state and is now caring for refugee children in Greece.

"The people in Greece dread tuberculosis as they do the plague, and very recently a poor refugee mother with two tubercular children came in the dead of night and abandoned the children on the steps of one of the hospitals. The woman could find no place in which to live and had been driven from camp to camp by her neighbors who feared the terrible plague. If we could only have a little of the needless Christmas waste, then these 300 boys who are making such a gallant fight for life, boys from 13 to 16 who are earning less than \$12 per month where living costs are higher than they are in America, I say, even if we could have a little of the needless Christmas waste, these boys would have a chance. As it is now, many of them are simply condemned to death. I know you will do all you can and I shall try to be patient."

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

The local Knights lodge recently elected the following new officers: Norris Soden, C. C.; W. L. Van Doren, V. C.; E. F. Messing, P. E. late; T. C. Allen, M. of A.; Harry Culbertson, K. R. S.; E. L. Smith, M. E.; C. W. Mellinger, I. G.; R. Sessman, O. G.

Pythian Sisters Elect Mrs. Mildred Black M. E. C.

The Pythian Sisters held election of officers December 1 at which the following were elected: M. E. C., Mrs. Mildred Black; E. S., Mrs. Adella Soden; E. J. Mrs. Lillian Brown, Manager, Mrs. Minnie Aspland; M. of R. and C., Mrs. Pearl Wilkerson; M. of F., Mrs. Anna Allen; Guard, Mrs. Lola Nance; Protector, Mrs. Freeda Van Doren; Past Chief, Mrs. Marjorie Cole.

On Monday evening the Knights entertained the Sisters with a big turkey feed. About 40 of the St. Helens Knights and ladies were over to enjoy the feed with us. A short program was enjoyed by all. District Attorney Foote was present and gave a short talk.—Lola Nance, press correspondent.

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MANY ARE PLEASED BY MAC'S BAND CONCERT

There is said to be nothing more gratifying to an organization performing in public than the plaudits of the listeners. If such is the case both players and listeners were satisfied Thursday evening when the Majestic theatre was filled to capacity to hear Mac's band and orchestra.

The audience showed their appreciation of this musical treat by demanding more and still more; refusing in some instances to allow the curtain to be drawn. Many believe that Mr. McBarron and his musicians deserve to be ranked among the best on the Pacific coast, and that "Mac" has proven himself a musical director and instructor of considerable ability.

The program was replete with compositions of some of the world's greatest masters, which, in the opinion of those present, were rendered by these musicians with a technique comparably only with some of the best musical organizations of the Pacific coast.

The violin solos, as played by Mrs. Stella Tapp in "William Tell" and "Poet and Peasant," seemed to throw a spell of wonderment on her hearers as her bow wove into the beautiful cadenzas of these pieces. It was said that Mrs. Tapp gave a demonstration with the violin that many little believed was in the city.

Aug. Perier, saxophone soloist, pleased the many listeners present with the skill with which he executed his solo in "The Bohemian Girl." Charlesworth and Reithner, who played a trumpet duet in the selection "In The Starlight," won loud plaudits from those present for their demonstration of harmony and expression. E. Steiner, in his saxophone solo, also drew forth the applause of the house with his number.

Mrs. Culver, pianist in Mac's orchestra, played all the accompaniments during the concert, lending good support to the ensemble, duet and solo pieces, in the opinion of those present. The piano used on the occasion was donated by Mrs. A. L. Fenner and the chairs by J. W. Brown.

PRaises MAC'S BAND FOR CONCERT GIVEN

The McBarron orchestra gave a concert in the Majestic theatre Thursday night that was a grand success. Professor McBarron and his artists surely have congratulations due them from the public. We all feel proud of a product of such weight for the musical talent in our city.

They have labored hard and spent thousands of dollars for music and instruments. So it is up to the business interests as well as the public to encourage such an addition to our social and business interests of the community.

I have heard over my radio, music from all coast cities of the west and some in the middlewest, and our home orchestra was on an equal with the best of them. I have heard the highest of praise from all who attended this concert.

So let us give our support in full to keep them in our midst. It is a great asset for our children, educating, clean, void of jazz, stimulating the minds and morals of the young. So let us one and all give three cheers for the McBarron orchestra.—A SCUTHERNER.

Rebekahs Visit in Clatskanie.

A party of Rebekah ladies journeyed to Clatskanie last Tuesday night, accepting the invitation of La France lodge. Lodges from Westport, Rainier, St. Helens, Portland, British Columbia and Vernonia were represented by a large attendance.

The Westport lodge put on the initiation work. Those making the trip from Vernonia were Mrs. Attie Cameron, Mrs. Edna Kelley, Mrs. Hazel Thompson, Mrs. Irene Spencer, Mrs. Dorcas Bays, Mrs. Bertha Brown, Mrs. May Mellinger and Mrs. Gladys Smith. All reported a splendid time.

Fined for Gambling.

The following paid fines for gambling in the city before Judge Reasoner Monday: A. Artigo \$5, J. Andy \$5, Thomas Dalaug \$5, Henry Roth \$7.50.

SENATE AUTHORIZES LONGVIEW BRIDGE

Determined efforts to build the bridge span between Rainier and Longview met with success in the state, when that body passed the bill Saturday with a record vote. Two attempts to amend the bill before passage were defeated. These amendments would have so crippled the bill as to virtually make it inoperative, it was said. It is expected that the bill will pass the house with even less opposition than in the senate.

GIRLS GLEE CLUB ENTERTAINS HERE

The girls' glee club sang three numbers at the entertainment given by the Knights of Pythias Monday evening. This was the first time the girls have appeared on a musical program. After the program, they were guests at the banquet.

The civics class has been studying parliamentary law during the past two weeks. Some members have taken a great interest in this part of their class work and have made considerable progress towards becoming parliamentarians.

The senior English class has been taking work in debating recently under Miss Perce, their teacher. It is probable that we will join the county debating league rather than the state league this year.

At our next assembly meeting, the principal part of the program will be a debate on the subject, "That Oregon Should Establish a System of Old Age Pensions." Ruth Holaday, John Wardle and Norman Pettijohn will support the affirmative side of the question, and Helen Hieber, William Hill and Veldon Parker will represent the negative side.

The freshman class, under the leadership of their president, Kathryn Hoffman, sold 1000 Christmas seals which were sent to the school by the Oregon Tuberculosis association.

The high school is planning for a Christmas program to be given on the afternoon of December 24. The senior class will furnish a musical program, and here will be a Christmas tree with appropriate decorations. Of course, we shall all draw numbers, or names, and each person holding a number will receive a gift which may be suitable or otherwise.

Members of the chemistry class have been making experiments in the preparation and properties of the different acids. The most interesting part of the work in chemistry is the laboratory experiments.

Miss Hickman reports that her French class is doing very satisfactory work. This is the first year French has been offered in the high school course. When the second year Spanish class complete the year's work, French and Latin will be the only foreign languages taught in this high school during the next few years.

The first year Latin class is perhaps one of the best classes of its kind in the county. Of course, there are some poor pupils, but the majority rank very high in their class work.

Mrs. Hammack is conducting three classes in geometry at this time. This is one of the high school subjects that brings real grief to an indolent pupil, and to many studious pupils it is a source of much worry. A majority of the pupils taking geometry this year are making creditable grades.

The sewing classes are kept busy by their teacher, Miss Goodin. This is one class which offers many opportunities for visiting and gossip, provided the teachers permits it. Miss Goodin is an exception in this direction, perhaps, and does not permit very much talking in the sewing classes.

The typing room, too, is a delightful place for friendly conversation, but here again, a lack of appreciation for conversation is shown by the instructor, Mr. Graham. So many pupils fail to realize that typing is work. In this class, they are more inclined to loaf than in any other.

Senior Class.
Dudley Spencer and Margaret

LOWER RIVER MEETING HELD

A. W. Norblad of Astoria Re-elected President.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

President Aldrich and Lester Sheeley of Vernonia Chamber Present.

President R. M. Aldrich and Lester Sheeley of the Vernonia chamber of commerce were present at the meeting of the Association of Lower Columbia River chamber of commerce held in the high school building at Rainier Friday night.

A. W. Norblad of Astoria was re-elected president. Other officers were: Secretary, Gus Hasenback of Longview; vice-presidents, E. M. Orgh of Cathlamet, G. E. Tinker of Long Beach, L. R. Rutherford of St. Helens and N. U. Blumensadt of Rainier.

Resolutions adopted favored raising of a fund for state advertising by taxation, passage by congress of an appropriation for opening the Ilwaco canal, adoption of a reforestation measure by the Oregon and Washington legislatures and widening of the bridge at Clatskanie river.

J. S. Dellinger of Astoria spoke in favor of completion of the Roosevelt highway. H. B. Van Duzer, chairman of the state highway commission, explained the work of that body and said that \$20,000,000 would be needed to complete the Oregon highway system. He favored an oil shoulder treatment to widen the Columbia highway in place of a concrete strip previously advocated by the association.

Other speakers were Herbert Cuthbert, publicity manager for the Portland Chamber of Commerce; Captain Wood, forester for the Long-Bell company at Ryderwood, who discussed reforestation, and Lee Drake of Astoria, on land settlement.

About 150 delegates attended the meeting, representing Cannon Beach, Seaside, Warrenton, Rainier, Clatskanie, Astoria, St. Helens, Gearheart, Vernonia, Grays River, Castle Rock, Ilwaco, Kalama, Kelso, Chinook, Ocean Park, Skamokawa, Long Beach, Longview, Cathlamet and Puget Island.

The association was formed last April and has held four meetings. St. Helens was chosen as the place for the next meeting, which will be held some time in March. At this time it is expected that resolutions will be passed upon favoring the development of the inland highway route.

Shipley were absent from the senior class Monday. Amy Hughes was absent Monday afternoon. Shella Williams was absent last Thursday. Three members of the senior class had a "picnic" Thursday afternoon after school.

The senior class had a treasure hunt Saturday night which ended unexpectedly. The treasure was the surprise of the evening.

The senior class is represented by Glenn Hawkins, Marshall Malmsten and Kenneth Whetsell on the Vernonia high school basketball team. Hawkins is playing center, Malmsten forward, and Whetsell running guard.

An informal banquet was given by Mr. Wilkerson in honor of the football players Friday evening in one of the new rooms of the high school. The table was decorated in the high school colors and represented a football field. Speeches were made by Glenn Hawkins, Harold Olsen, Dudley Spencer, Bill Hill, Russell Mills, Johnny Wardle and Lewis Laramore.

The football team had a very successful season this year; in fact, it was better than any preceding football season. The team tied with Rainier and Clatskanie for the championship of Columbia county and won several games outside of the league. Vernonia scored 119 points to her opponents 27. The

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