

A PLAIN BUSINESS TALK ABOUT CORPORATIONS

In the development of a city it is necessary to deal with corporations. Unless a city HAS BEEN WISE ENOUGH to retain all its public service utilities in its own hands, they must be conducted by private corporations.

Fair Treatment to Both City, People and Corporations Is To Be Desired.

There are four features of private corporation management that the people are entitled to take a lively interest in.

First—As employers of labor, and how they treat their employees.

Second—The character of the service rendered and the price charged the people.

Third—The policy of the corporation as to extensions, and improvements.

Fourth—The corporation shall pay it just share of taxes.

There is no fault to be found with any public service corporation doing business in Salem on the first point. They have employed A LARGE PAYROLL AT FAIR WAGES AND HOURS the past two years and helped make Salem a prosperous, progressive city. Without those payrolls Salem would have been a very quiet city. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE CLASS OF THE GRAVEYARD TOWNS.

On the second point—as to the character of the public service—IN WHAT RESPECT HAS SALEM SUFFERED? Street car service has been improved one hundred percent. Our lighting system has not been a monopoly in one sense. GASOLINE LIGHTS ARE USED FREELY. The gas plant has been enlarged. Gas may be cheaper in other places. But electric light and power at Salem are on the Portland scale of prices. Can we reasonably deny that OUR CITY IS WELL-SERVED AND WELL-EQUIPPED? It is human to kick, and we probably do not kick as much as we should. But there are defects and complaints in all cities. The fair and reasonable man will be just to himself and to his city when he says, all things considered, SALEM IS WELL SERVED.

Have the Salem public service corporations kept up to the demands of the city in betterments and improvements? This question is relative. WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM to make betterments and extensions? Where did the Portland General Electric Co. get \$135,000 spent at Salem the past year? In the East. Would local capitalists have put up that \$135,000 for betterments of the street car lines and lighting plants?

PERHAPS, AND PERHAPS NOT. The Portland General Electric corporation announces that it has secured \$2,000,000 for betterments and equipment in that city for 1909. Would Portland capitalists put up that \$2,000,000? What answer can Salem or Portland make? You say, let the city own and operate the lighting plants. We will agree to that BUT UNTIL THE CITY DOES OWN THEM someone must get the money for improvements, especially at Salem where these public utilities are not yet on a profitable basis. No one will claim that the streetcars here do a paying business, OR THAT THE GAS PLANT PAYS ANY PROFITS. To get capital for such plants at Salem, for extensions like the one to Morningside, the corporation must have a franchise. If its franchise is kept hanging up in the air for a year and a-half as at Salem, HOW CAN THE CORPORATION BORROW ANY MONEY FOR BETTERMENTS?

The fact is, the manager of the Portland General at Salem has done remarkably well with no assurance whatever as to his company's right to exist here AS A CORPORATE ENTITY.

How can the directors of the Portland General Electric get capital to build extensions, to get cars with air brakes and fenders, when a franchise takes the better part of two years to be amended?

It is a good political play to ham-

Georgia's State Chemist Praises Cottole.

Mr. J. H. McCandless, State Chemist of Georgia, before a recent gathering gave emphatic testimony to the high quality of Cottole. He said:

"The sale of this product, and the proclamation that it is made from cotton seed oil, have done more to bring cotton seed oil truthfully and favorably before the public than anything else in recent history."

Mr. McCandless then pointed out why a pure refined vegetable oil base, such as is used in Cottole, is the only assurance a woman has of a clean, digestible cooking product.

mer a corporation whenever you can but what becomes of the demand we are making for it to meet the demands of a growing city, for new lines, better cars, faster time, and new bridges? The chances are that holding up a franchise for two years, (which should have been passed in a month,) WILL LEAVE THIS CITY WITHOUT ANY APPROPRIATIONS WHATEVER for improvements at the hands of the Portland General Electric. If they had their franchise early in 1908, the manager at Salem could have submitted estimates for money needed in 1909, and we could go ahead as a city. As it was he could do nothing and towns like Eugene and Albany, WHERE FRANCHISES ARE NOT HELD UP, will get improvements and we will do without. The corporation fighter will say, "kick the Portland General Electric out, MAKE IT COME THROUGH, let some one else run our streetcars, etc." But the agitator and demagogue we have always with us. If he has any money to invest he buys property at Portland or Seattle or somewhere else. WHERE CORPORATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO INVEST MONEY and to secure "non-resident" capital, and spend it freely as the Oregon Electric is doing on the West Side.

The Oregon Electric built into our city and established a first-class train and freight and express service in competition with the Southern Pacific. It had no more than got into our city than it was clubbed and kicked and "resolved" to a standstill. Its grades were ordered changed, it was attacked on the north and south, and it was forced to build a little shack depot on a back street, instead of a beautiful, modern structure in the heart of the city. This is not a good policy to build up a city. It blocks rapid development.

Instead of an everlasting crucifixion of "non-resident" capital and eternal warfare against public service corporations, a policy of encouragement WOULD HAVE BROUGHT DIFFERENT RESULTS.

It would have secured an extension of car service south towards Liberty. This city would have got a substantial benefit if it had said—"run your cars to the end of the line and we will grant your franchise. Give us the Liberty business and we will give you a franchise. That would have APPEALED TO EVERY BUSINESS MAN OF THIS CITY

If this city had said to the Oregon Electric: Gentlemen, we realize that you have done a great thing for our city. You have put us on the map. WE WANT YOU TO DO SOME MORE. We want you to build south and construct some branch lines and make Salem center of your system. Instead of that, Supt. Talbot has been hustling money in the east to extend this system ON THE WEST SIDE and no friendly feeling has been developed for further investments here. It is not too late to change all this and recover our lost ground and secure the hearty co-operation of these corporations to MAKE SALEM THE GREAT AND SPLENDID CAPITAL CITY IT SHOULD BE.

On the fourth point—paying proper share of taxes toward our city, there is no controversy. The corporations are heavily taxed and they do contribute in other ways to the support of the city—to its advertising funds and development campaign funds.

Take the Southern Pacific corporation. It is one of the greatest monopolies in the world. But the character of this corporation cannot be changed one iota by this city. WE DO NEED AND REQUIRE AS A CITY CERTAIN THINGS. How best to get a fine new passenger station, a larger and better freight warehouse, beautiful depot grounds, the improvement of Twelfth street—these are matter OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE CITY. How shall we get them?

Let us ask ourselves, how can we best get the S. P. Co. to give us WHAT IT HAS GIVEN ALBANY—WHAT IT HAS GIVEN EUGENE, and other places? By passing resolutions condemning its franchise, by attacking its grades, by carrying on a fight against its local and general managers.

The city has granted Mr. Welch a franchise to build an electric line out of this city. How can we best cooperate to get that line started? We cannot help Mr. Welch get capital to build his line by any UN-FRIENDLY POLICY. That is too

plain to require argument. But this city has a record of hostility to the Portland General Electric and the Oregon Electric that is a warning to these other corporations. Who can blame Mr. Talbot or Mr. Josselyn IF THEY CANNOT GET MONEY to carry on extensions at Salem? Who can blame the S. P. Co. or Mr. Welch if they do not find it easy?

In this general review of the question it is not the intention to censure individual officials or to defend all that corporations may do. They should be controlled and regulated and made to obey the laws, but not to the extent of discouraging or driving out investments. Corporations are corporations. The treatment of the Oregon Nursery corporation WAS RESENTED AND CONDEMNED by our business men and commercial organizations. The same treatment of the Salem Woolen Mills Co. or the Spaulding Logging Co. WOULD BE RESENTED AND CONDEMNED.

But it seems to be all right in the minds of some to roast and slap a different kind of corporation because it is handled by "non-resident" capital. THAT IS A FATAL MISTAKE AS A MATTER OF POLICY IN BUILDING UP CITY.

Public service corporations cannot be built up without "foreign capital," and they cannot get that foreign capital when the CONDITIONS ARE UNFRIENDLY AND UNFAVORABLE. Many cities are envious of Salem for having its present advantages and would be glad to grant franchises to get what we have got. In pushing for development they may be too liberal and go too far. WE MAY BE TOO NARROW AND GO TOO SLOW FOR OUR OWN GOOD AS A CITY. We may stop and block progress and stand still while other cities pass us. This is the most critical time in the history of Salem. Suppose the next census is so managed in 1910 as to show us the third or fourth city in Oregon? Yet that is possible of not probable.

Envious influences at Portland and other cities pat the obstructionist on the back and encourage tactics that shall check our magnificent growth. They would be delighted to have us stop our growth until they overtake us or pass us in the race.

When will we learn wisdom and put on our glasses and see the dangers of policies that are driving "non-resident" capital TO BUILD UP OTHER CITIES. Let no friend of Salem ignore the true conditions and assist in blocking development.

TEA

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Stoddard Dayton '07 model, glass front, top, speedometer, gas lights, in fine condition. Cost \$3000, for \$1250. A bargain.
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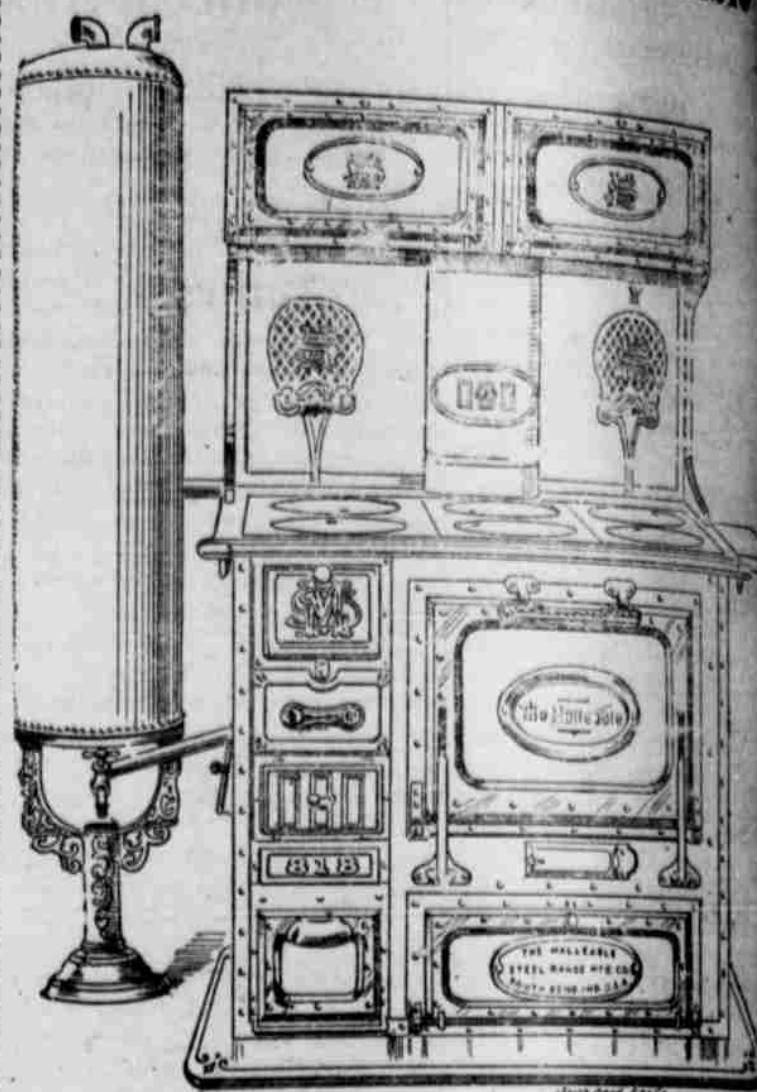
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4. Closet door drops in place of rolling up, making it more sanitary and easier to keep clean.
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6. Body of range has triple wall. The outer surface is a sheet of polished steel, the inside being cold rolled steel. Between them is asbestos mill board.
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Shoulder steak	3 lbs for 25c	Fresh side pork	12 1/2@13 1/2
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Home made sausage	10@12 1/2c	Rib chops	12 1/2@13 1/2
Fresh pork sausage	10@12 1/2c	Shoulder chops	10@11 1/2
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Hamburger	10c	Mutton stew	6c, 7c, 8c

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