

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL

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JUST RAILROAD MEN.

WHEN the Salem business men gather in the big Hotel Marlon dining room tomorrow night with their guests, there will be four classes represented, the lawmakers, the law breakers, law abiding citizens and a few newspaper men by the way of salt and condiments. When we use the term "law breakers" we, of course, allude to the railroad men. We so classify them, not because they are really any more "breachy" than other citizens, but because up until very recently, everybody has looked upon any one connected with a railroad, as little less than a criminal. We use every endeavor to get a railroad and then turn our attention to kicking about it. The Southern Pacific has come in for more than its fair share of this kind of treatment. We point to its great steal of public lands, when it built the first railroad across the continent, forgetful of the fact that we gave it the lands to induce it to build the road, and that the men behind it were the only bunch in the United States that had the "sand" to build the road with all the bonus propositions thrown in. The lands at the time were valueless and would be so today if the road had not been built. We class this corporation as a gigantic robber, because it accepted the terms we offered it. This is but one of hundreds of examples that might be pointed out, where we have classed the railroad companies as d—d rascals, for doing what we begged or bribed them to do. The writer used to have this idea, to a small extent. He used to run a little paper up at Hood River, and about the only thing in the way of profit he made out of it, was a pass issued by the O. R. & N., permitting him to ride over its road free, other than such local advertising as he gave it. When the law was passed making it unlawful to issue passes, that heartless corporation obeyed that law with such cheerful alacrity, and took the pass that had been next to his heart for years, away from him so suddenly that he caught cold.

Fortunately this old idea concerning the railroads has been discarded, and we have all learned that the railroads are the country's best friends and most persistent boosters. The railroad is more interested in the territory it serves than any one. The prosperity of the community means the prosperity of the railroad, and when the community suffers, the railroad aches in sympathy.

Tomorrow night gentlemen will attend the banquet, representing the companies that will gridiron the valley with railroads, that in the very near future will spend \$12,000,000 in accomplishing this. They are brassy, wide-awake men, those railroad fellows, and they are looking into the future. The needs of the valley just now do not demand these roads but when they are built, they will create their own demand.

The Willamette valley is one of the richest in the world. It has the most prolific soil, and an elasticity of climate that permits the widest range of vegetation of any country in the world in like latitude. It is as far to look upon as was the Garden of Eden, after Eve appeared and completed the perfectness of the scenery. It is hardly begun to be settled, for in a short time it will be a section of small farms, of blooming orchards and clinging vines. The time is not far distant when these lands will be so valuable as to make railroad building almost prohibitive on account of the cents of rights of way. That is where the companies are wise in building now. These gentlemen, pouring out their money like water, look to the future for their reward and that reward will come with increasing population. The business men here have already gone on record as favoring any effort to increase the population and bring about the upbuilding of the valley. The newspaper men here in their quiet way stand with the railroads and the business men, for the uplifting of the valley, of filling it with thousands of happy homes, and these three classes are all enthusiastically in favor of the state making a first class exhibit at the Panama exposition that more than anything else will aid

In producing this result. You gentlemen of the legislature are the fourth class. It is up to you who represent business and railroad men, newspapers and the whole state, to see that Oregon is represented in first class shape. Economy is all right, but let it be used in handling the expenditure of whatever sum is appropriated. If the railroads can expend \$12,000,000, relying on the future growth of the valley for their recompense, can the state of Oregon afford to hesitate about having the same optimistic views, and by making a good appropriation case, its bread upon the waters, even as the railroad companies have done?

ABOUT THAT SALARY.

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL a few days ago commented upon the action of the city council in raising the salary of the city attorney from \$1200 to \$1500 a year. At the time it offered to give space to the city councilmen or to the city attorney to explain this sudden and exceeding generosity at once. So far none have availed themselves of the opportunity. It was suggested that they do not come all at once, and it is perhaps due to this, that so far no explanations have been made. It is probably due to that innate modesty and bashful diffidence peculiar to public officials, that in such cases always impels them to stand modestly in the background lest they be deemed unbecomingly egotistical, and let their fellow officials take a whack at it.

On top of this sudden raise comes the information that the election voting some \$300,000 for sewer bonds was not held legally, and for this reason the bonds are not marketable. This is bad, and is probably sufficient answer to the Journal's question as to why the city attorney's salary had been raised. Perhaps if it had been raised sooner, the election might have been conducted as the law requires. Of course this is only surmise. Indeed, the Journal will go further than this and cheerfully admit that it does not know the election is illegal, or if it was, wherein it was so, or on whom the blame should fall. All it knows of it is that some of the councilmen, discussing the bond issue, made the statement that the big companies, investigating the matter with the intention of purchasing the bonds, discovered such a defect. It is also learned from the same source that the opinion of some lawyer extra well versed in the matter of city bonds may be sought even though it costs \$600, just to get this bit of legal advice. Of course legal information comes high, we all know that, but that brings us back to the original query "Why did the council raise the salary of the city attorney's office?"

NO FREE SCHOLARSHIPS—YET.

WHILE The Journal is in the question-asking line and is thus seeking to acquire much-needed information, it is proper that while asking some of the city officers a few questions that it also seek a little light from the Willamette university, for the benefit of its numberless subscribers. The Journal along with the other friends of the university rejoiced at the magnificent manner in which the university's appeal for an enlarged endowment was responded to. It realized that now when others had done so much for the university, that it would in turn do something for others. It was expected that several free scholarships would be provided, so that some of the young men ambitious but poor, now struggling for an education, would receive some of the crumbs from the table where the university feasted so splendidly. So far nothing has been done along this line, but it is hoped this condition will not remain long. That out of the fullness of its gratitude and the plenitude of its gifts, it in turn will see something for the needy students, unable to otherwise take advantage of the university's splendid educational facilities.

Most county judges and commissioners favor full value assessments. Why shouldn't they when such assessments have been required by law for many years?

Company Explains Its System

SHOWS THAT IT ADDS THE 5 PER CENT TO THE TOTAL, WHEN IT MIGHT ADD IT TO EACH ITEM—DOES IT TO AVOID FRACTIONS.

Many complaints coming to The Capital Journal of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co's peculiar method of making out its bills, apparently offering a 5 per cent discount thereon, if paid within 10 days, but at the same time adding 5 per cent to the bill when it is sent out, so that, in case the bill is paid within the required time, this 5 per cent arbitrarily added is generously "thrown off," and the customer is permitted to pay his bill without any penalty. It is a cumbersome, awkward way of doing business, to say the least; is misleading and causes much kicking and more comment. The Capital Journal took the matter up with the company, which has very accommodatingly furnished it the following very lucid explanation, which shows clearly that the company added the 5 per cent to the total of your bill instead of, as it might easily have done, adding the 5 per cent to each individual item. The statement explains this in detail, and also proves conclusively that the bill is just the same whether the 5 per cent is carried out on each item, or on the total. It does not explain, though, why it is put on at all, only as a penalty, and the bill is so arranged as to make it appear to do this, but to really give a discount, when it does nothing of the kind. However, there is no use discussing the matter, for the company can fix the rates as it pleases, so the especial mentioning of 5 per cent, or any other sum, is just a waste of time. It will cost just the same, whether called a rebate, discount or any other old thing.

The company's statement is as follows:

The Company's Statement.
Editor Capital Journal: In compliance with your request for an explanation of why we add the 5 per cent to the sum of the 9, 7 and 4c charges in figuring our lighting rate, I wish to advise as follows:

Our electric lighting rate, as has been advertised and specified in our contracts for such service, is:

9c per kilowatt-hour, for the first 6 per cent of the maximum consumption, plus 7c per kilowatt-hour for the next 6 per cent of the maximum consumption, plus 4c per kilowatt-hour for all current used in excess of the above 12 per cent, plus 5 per cent of the sum of the above charges.

A cash discount is offered for prompt payment within 10 days from the date the bill is received by the customer, this cash discount being equal to the 5 per cent portion of the charge.

Some people do not realize that the 5 per cent portion of the total charge, is as much a part of the rate, as are the 9, 7 and 4c portions, but such is the case as they would know, if they had read that portion of the contract that refers to the rate, or the advertisements which we have published, announcing the rate.

In explanation of why it is necessary for us to add this 5 per cent, I wish to say that when the company decided, about a year and a half ago, to reduce its rates for electric lighting the management decided to make a reduction that would reduce their revenues from this class of business about 10 per cent. They also decided to reduce the maximum rate from 15c to about 10c per kilowatt-hour.

The company's engineers were therefore given instructions to work out a rate that would accomplish the above-mentioned results, and after spending several months in an exhaustive analysis of the company's accounts with its customers, they found that the present rate fulfilled the requirements better than any other they were able to devise.

The addition of the 5 per cent portion of the total charge, to the sum of the 9, 7 and 4c portions could have been avoided by adding the 5 per cent to each of the 9, 7, and 4c rates, thus making the expression of the rate as follows:

9.45 per k. w. h., for the first 6 per cent of the maximum consumption, plus 7.35c per k. w. h., for the next 6 per cent of the maximum consumption, plus 4.20 c per k. w. h., for all current used in excess of the above 12 per cent.

ONLY THIS WEEK LEFT

FOR OUR ANNUAL CLEARING SALE OUR SPOT CASH SYSTEM

and being direct manufacturers' buyers places us in a position to be able to give to our customers goods of merit and quality at prices that can not be beat on the Pacific coast

OUR SPOT CASH SYSTEM

means a great saving for each customer that trades at this store. Credit means long profits. Trade for spot cash where you get every cent's worth of value that is coming to you. All we ask of you is to compare our prices and see who gives you the best bargains



Only This Week

Of our Clearance Sale. Prices lower than ever.

- SUITS
- \$4.50
 - \$7.50
 - \$8.50
- and
- \$10.50

Stylish Suits worth \$12.50, \$18.00 and \$25; must go regardless of cost.

OUR SPOT CASH SYSTEM

Enables us to give you the lowest prices in Salem.

- Dress Gingham—Yd, 7 1-2c 8 1-3c and 10c
- Linon Finished Percales—Yard, 5c and 8 1-3c
- 1000 yards of Bleached Table Linens now on sale. Yard 25c, 35c, 49c up
- CURTAIN SCRIM 100 yards now on sale in white, cream, ecru and fancy borders; prices small. Yard, 8 1-3c, 10c, 12 1-2c 15c

BLANKET BARGAINS—Pair, 19c, 65c, 75c, 98c

Only This Week

Left to close out all our COATS

- \$3.50
 - \$4.95
 - \$7.50
- and
- \$10.50

COATS sold for this week regardless of cost



New Spring Silks

Just received, brocaded Messalines, flowered Charmense, Poplins and tub silks, now opened up and ready for selling at per yard.

49c., 69c., 75c., 98c.



SHOES ON SALE

this week, odd sizes sold less first cost, \$3.00 shoes now at

\$1.49, \$1.75, \$1.98



Ostrich Plumes

Priced away down to clean up the odd numbers. Values up to \$5, \$6.50 and \$7.50.

Now \$1.98, \$2.50, \$3.50

Clearing Prices ON ONE-PIECE SUITS

- \$4.50
 - \$5.90
 - \$6.50
- and
- \$8.50

Fashionable one-piece suits sold this week at LESS THAN COST

New Spring Woolen Dress Goods

Now placed on sale at wonderful low prices; now is the time to pick up your spring goods.

SPECIAL PRICE PER YARD

25c. 35c. 49c. 75c. up



Clearing Prices

odd lots and odd sizes of ladies' Skirt Waists, \$1.50, \$2 waists, now 49c, 75c 95c

Men's Furnishings and Clothing

Now selling at manufacturers' first cost.

Men's overcoats...\$6.50 Men's Suits... \$6.90
Men's 75c underwear, wool fleeced at... 89c

CHICAGO STORE

SALEM, OREGON

THE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

quantity of electricity used, then, by the present method—
10 k. w. h. @ 9c equals...\$.90
10 k. w. h. @ 7c equals... .70
76 k. w. h. @ 4c equals... 3.04
Plus 5 per cent... .232

96 k. w. h.\$4.572
And by the other method—
10 k. w. h. @ 9.45c equals...\$.945
10 k. w. h. @ 7.35c equals... .735
76 k. w. h. @ 4.20c equals... 3.192

96 k. w. h.\$4.572
Therefore the bill is \$4.872 when figured either way. Furthermore if the bill is paid within ten days a cash discount equal to the above 5 per cent portion of the charge, or \$232, will be

allowed, making the net bill in either case \$4.872 minus \$232, or \$4.64.
Trusting that the above explanation will be clear to you I am,
Yours respectfully,
W. M. HAMILTON,
Local Manager.

OREGON SENATORS' VOTES

DISBARRED JUDGE ARCHBALD counts in his favor; Senator Chamberlain, Washington, Jan. 28.—The fourteen roll calls taken in the senate upon the guilt and punishment of Judge Archbald of the commerce court showed Senator Bourne 13 times against the accused and once absolving him from blame; Senator Poindexter voted 10 times against Archbald, and on 7

lain was 7 times against and 6 times in defense of the respondent; Senator Jones and Senator Works each balanced 7 counts against 7, while Senator Perkins pronounced Archbald guilty on the first 5 charges and not guilty on all others.

The fourteenth roll call determining whether Archbald, after expulsion from his place on the bench, should be forever disqualified from holding any office under the United States, was answered against the convicted man by Bourne, Chamberlain and Poindexter, and in his favor by Jones, Perkins and Works. Had the former group voted with the latter, Archbald would be eligible for further honors on the bench, as the vote was 29 to 35.

Famous Stage Beauties.

look with horror on Skin Eruptions, Blisters, Sores or Pimples. They don't have them. For all such troubles use Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It glorifies the face. Excellent for Eczema or Salt Rheum, it cures sore lips, chapped hands, chilblains; heals burns, cuts and bruises. Unsurpassed for piles. 25c at J. C. Perry's.

If your children are subject to attacks of croup, watch for the first symptoms, hoarseness. Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as soon as the child becomes hoarse, and the attack may be warded off. For sale by all dealers.