

ELECTRIC LIGHT PROPOSITION AND THE PUBLIC RECORD

When the present city administration with Mayor Campbell at the head, took charge of city affairs four years ago, the Tacoma Railway & Power company was furnishing the current for the electric light system and charging the city about 16 mills or 1.6 cents per kilowatt hour. The service furnished by the Tacoma Railway & Power company had been and was at that time very poor. It was so poor, in fact, that many people were obliged to take out electric lights and adopt other means of lighting. The mayor at once took up the matter of securing better service at a less exorbitant figure, though violently opposed by a majority of the city council for attempting to do so.

Toward the end of the year 1901 he had so far succeeded in his efforts to secure cheaper and better lights that in November the commissioner of public works had received bids from four companies for supplying electric current. They were as follows: Washington Power company, 1.33 cents per kilowatt hour; Bates & Murray, 1.13 cents per kilowatt hour; Tacoma Railway & Power company, as near as can be estimated, an average of 1.087 cents were kilowatt hour; Tacoma Cataract company, 1.2 cents per kilowatt hour.

The bid of the Washington Power company was rejected because it was not made in compliance with the specifications. The bid of Bates & Murray was rejected because they were not the owners of a plant for generating electrical current and could not satisfy the commissioner that they were able to carry out the conditions of the contract. The bid of the Tacoma Railway & Power company was rejected by the commissioner because it was stated in such vague and uncertain terms that it was hard to understand just what it meant.

ONLY PROPER BID

The only bid, therefore, which was made in conformity with the specifications and was stated in clear and unequivocal terms was that of the Tacoma Cataract company at 1.2 per kilowatt hour, three-tenths of a cent less than the city was then paying the Tacoma Railway & Power company for use of factory and insufficient service. The commissioner of public works therefore announced his intention of awarding the contract to that company. The mayor also urged the acceptance of the bid of the Tacoma Cataract company for the same reasons, and because he was anxious to secure for the city better electric light service at a less exorbitant rate than was then being paid.

About that time, so the records show, certain members of the council came to the aid of the Tacoma Railway & Power company. At the meeting of the council November 21, 1901, it was moved that the commissioner of public works be instructed to take no further action in the matter of awarding the electric light contract until ordered to do so by the council. Another motion was to the effect that a committee

be appointed to "investigate the conduct of the mayor, the commissioner of public works and the city electrician in connection with the contract now pending, and especially in connection with the letting of the contract to the Tacoma Cataract company." The motion was passed.

MAYOR TOOK ACTION

As soon as Mayor Campbell heard of the council's action he called a special meeting and asked that the investigation be commenced at once. A motion to that effect was made and lost. Besides the councilmen, there were a large number of citizens present, and Mayor Campbell explained the situation.

Before the meeting some of the citizens were mad enough to want to throw the mayor out of the window. After he was through talking, the sentiment changed and they felt like throwing some of the councilmen out of the window.

At a subsequent meeting, November 26, when the investigation committee was to have reported, the council backed down completely and passed a resolution which, in substance, stated that the matter now having gotten into court, and as there seemed to be "no reason for further inquiry, be it resolved, that the council take no further action." Thus the "investigation" was hurried to an early grave by those who had asked for it.

All this time the Tacoma Railway & Power company was tearing its hair at the thought of having its graft on the city treasury taken away. The company got out an injunction restraining the commissioner of public works from awarding the contract to the Tacoma Cataract company, and thus the matter was taken from the jurisdiction of the city officials to that of the superior court of Pierce county.

The case came up before Judge Huston.

JUDGE HUSTON APPROVED
After going over the entire matter very thoroughly, Judge Huston rendered an opinion which supported in every particular the position taken by the mayor and commissioner of public works. He said that he did not find anything by which the commissioner could be charged "with fraud in making the award or even manifest error."

Subsequently, during the administration of Mayor Campbell, the contract with the Tacoma Cataract company was reduced from 12 mills to 8.4 mills per kilowatt hour, or about one-half what the Tacoma Railway & Power company had been charging. The bill of the Tacoma Railway & Power company for electric current furnished for the month of December, 1900, was \$4,513. The bill of the Tacoma Cataract company for electric current furnished for the month of December, 1903, for better service and with the number of light almost double what it was in 1900, was \$3,797.11. At the rate paid in 1900 the bill for December, 1903, would have been \$6,700 instead of \$3,797.11.

That is the story which the public records tell of the Tacoma electric lighting system.

STATE POINTERS

The Diamond Brick company of Ellsworth is making some extensive improvements to its already large plant. A tile factory is to be established soon, to employ about 75 men. Oil burners are being installed in all the works of the company. Orders sufficient to keep the plant busy all summer are on file.

The first shipment of cement from the Pacific Portland cement works was made yesterday. It was part of a ten-carload order that goes to Spokane.

The Alaska committee of the Bellingham Chamber of Commerce is working among the wholesalers of the city in an endeavor to induce them to send representatives to Alaska to drum up trade. The committee is confident that a large business will result and is hopeful that representatives will be sent.

The first lumber shipment from the new Mukilteo mill will go to Shanghai. The schooner Mindoro is now loading 1,000,000 feet for that port.

The Washington & Oregon Lumber company is planning some large improvements to its large sawmill at Vancouver, and will start the same up on full time about March 15. At present the mill is not in operation, except the planing department. The stock in the yards has been materially reduced.

A. Bucholz was killed in the Grays Harbor Commercial company's yards at Cosmopolis yesterday, a truck with lumber tipping over and throwing the lumber on him. He was a stranger at Cosmopolis and little could be learned about him.

Social and Personal

Yesterday afternoon, in the Masonic hall, the Ladies' Musical club gave an enjoyable recital, consisting almost entirely of Scandinavian music. A large audience was present and the program was highly appreciated. Miss Alice Thorsen, after a vivid description of the dramatic play, "Peer Gynt," a collaboration of Grieg and Ibsen, played four beautiful selections in which were pictured by musical harmonies the thrilling scenes in the adventurous life of Peer. Miss Nel Francis Willison, a young violinist of remarkable ability, assisted the club by the rendering of several violin solos from Bach, Hans Sill and Beethoven. The "Sunshine Song" from "Peer Gynt" was prettily sung by Miss Heyman. Selections from Chopin were ren-

Mayor Campbell will address the voters of the Seventh ward Wednesday evening, March 2, at 8 o'clock, in Gilbert Hall, 2807 Sixth avenue.

hired, 323 North J street. The election of officers was the principal business transacted.

The young people of the First M. E. church gave a social last night in the parlors of the church.

Miss Colehower has returned from a business trip to New York city.

LUMBERMEN CALL ON THE PREIDENT

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 2.—The National Wholesale Lumber Dealers' association convened in annual session in the capital today—with prominent lumbermen present from nearly every section of the United States. After the opening formalities and the transaction of some routine business the session adjourned and the members called in a body at the White House to pay their respects to President Roosevelt, who received them cordially and discussed with them several matters in which the lumber trade is particularly interested. Secretary Shaw and Secretary Cortelyou have been invited to address the convention tomorrow.

The American-Hawaiian steamship Lyra is due at the Commercial dock today.



Jap Infantryman. Russian in Cold Weather Costume.

RUSSIAN LEGATION GUARDS ARRIVING AT SEOUL FROM CHEMULPO--A SKETCH



When the Russians were refused permission to use the Japanese railway from Chemulpo to Seoul, they marched their troops overland to protect their legation at the Korean capital. This sketch was made as the Russian soldiers arrived at Seoul, by Frederic Villers, the famous artist. The quaint figure in the foreground to the left is wearing the mourning head-gear.

THE BRIDGEPORT TRAGEDY MAY NEVER BE SOLVED



Mrs. J. B. Canfield. The Anderson.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., March 2.—The mysterious double tragedy in the Canfield home bids fair to defy solution. Mrs. Joseph B. Canfield, the young wife, has been released by the police, who admit now that her husband and her maid, Thelma Anderson, may have been asphyxiated accidentally by fumes from the furnace. The inexplicable part of the affair is the escape of Mrs. Canfield and her pet terriers, who slept in the same house. Mrs. Canfield was a factory girl of unusual beauty at work in the Canfield mills when Canfield met her a year ago. They were married, but society refused to receive her and much unhappiness resulted.

ed. 8c lb; chestnuts, 12@13c lb; coconuts, 79@90c doz.

POULTRY

Chickens, hens and springs, 12 1/2@14c lb; dressed turkeys, 20@22c lb; ducks, live, 14c; dressed, 11@14c lb; geese, 10@11c lb; squabs, scarce, \$2.50@3.00 doz.

FISH, ETC.

Halibut, 8 1/2c; salmon, 8 1/2c; black cod, 7c; shrimp, 8c; clams, \$1.40 sack; crabs, \$1.00@1.50 doz; rock cod, 6c; herring, 4c.

HAY, GRAIN AND FEED

Oats, \$25.50@26 ton; barley, \$23.50 ton; wheat \$28 ton; chop \$22.50@23 ton; shorts \$20 ton; bran, \$19 ton; oil meal, \$29 ton; E. W. timothy, new, \$27 ton; new wheat hay, \$18@17 ton; new alfalfa, \$13.50@14 ton; new Puget Sound hay, \$15@16 ton; middlings, \$26.50 ton.

BUTTER, EGGS AND CHEESE

Butter.—Washington creamery, 28c; ranch, 14@15c; Eastern tub, 23@24c. Eggs.—Fresh ranch, 22c a dozen. Cheese.—Washington, 13 1/2c; New York, Sapho, full cream, 17@18c; Edam, 89.50; brick, 17c; Swiss, imported, 23@30c; Roquefort, 45c; Limburger, 16@20c; brick, 15c; Swiss brick, 17c.

LAWYER WHO GOT A \$2,000,000 FEE

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 2.—The ratification of the canal treaty meant



WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL.
\$2,000,000 in cold cash for William Nelson Cromwell, general attorney for the Panama Canal company. He was paid that fee for his two years' work in securing the ratification of the bill. He is a hard fighter, but even his enemies say he is an honest one. His fee is the largest ever paid.

Ben Olson PLUMBING AND HEATING

We carry a large stock of the latest improved sanitary fixtures. ESTIMATES FURNISHED
1130 Commerce Street. Phone Main 392.

Discriminating People Know

That nature's true material medica and art of healing are not found in a drug store, but in an institution thoroughly equipped with the latest scientific apparatus for intelligently administering Superheated and Rarefied air—Static, Galvanic, Faradic and High Frequency currents of electricity—Motor, Manual and Magnetic Massage—Color Forces, Suggestion and the various modalities of Psycho-Magnetic Therapy.

Chronic Diseases, such as Constipation, Catarrh, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Asthma, Bronchitis, permanently and pleasantly cured by Nature's Method at the

Laboratory of Fine Forces
B 5, The Hyson. Phone Main 652.

Redlich's Catsup

BEST IN THE MARKET

JONES SELLS PURE DRUGS
C. E. JONES
Successor to Stewart & Holmes Drug Co.

Garden Tools

A Fine Assortment—Good Stuff at Right Prices
Henry Mohr Hardware Co.
1148 Pacific Avenue Phone Main 124



ever you want to see the snappiest styles ever produced in clothes, you want to see our

Hart, Schaffner and Marx and Alfred Benjamin & Co's

Spring line. You can get a pretty good idea of it from the cut, but in order to see the suits as they really are, you need to put them on and stand before the glass. When you get one look at yourself in one of these suits, you'll much rather give up the price of it than give up the clothes.

We have plenty of them to show you.
Dege & Milner
Originators of Popular Prices for High-Grade Mercandises.
Clothing, Furnishers and Hatters.
1110-1112 Pacific Ave.
Office Phone Main 125.
Floor Phone Black 5842.

Tacoma Goes To Crying

for heat when it snows. Our little heaters put into a home just the kind of handy heat that does somebody some good. One of their first points of success is that you can carry them around over the house like a lantern. They'll warm up a bathroom in 2 minutes; if there's some chill in the dining-room, they'll kill it in 5 minutes. Then they're handy in the bedroom, the fact is, they're handy all over the house. Price, \$1.50 up.

Gas Co. 1001 A

WASHINGTON TRUCK CO., J. C. Hewitt & Co. General freighting, household goods, safes and pianos removed. Office 109 Tenth St. Office telephone, John 2341. Barn telephone, James 2341.

METHODS OF TRANSPORTATION HAVE CHANGED GREATLY IN JAPAN

TOKYO, March 2.—One of the indications of the great change the last few decades has made in Japan, is the improved mode of travel. The old style was essentially pedestrian. Common people traveled afoot, and carried or dragged their burdens. Couriers relied on fleetness of foot. The wealthy people were carried or hauled in vehicles by coolies. On water, transportation depended almost entirely upon muscular exertion except when the wind was favorable.

All this labor, year after year, developed a strength of limb and power of endurance which transmitted to a later generation, have enabled Japanese soldiers to march great distances with speed and ease and to withstand the piercing cold or blistering heat of Manchuria and Formosa respectively.

A life of constant exposure to wind, rain, heat and cold has toughened the skin and made a hardy race out of the common people. On the other hand, those of the wealthier class who do not indulge in physical training have been left with weak constitutions.

of a basket. The kago is still used in the mountainous country where nothing else is available.

There are still many pedestrians in Japan, but they become less every year. Boats are propelled by steam; the trolley is seen in this city; the stage, jinrikisha, the railway, with telegraph and telephone, operate through the country. The bicycle and automobile are common sights, and American and European distance annihilating inventions are rapidly adopted.

The "Pullman car" of Japan is the jinrikisha, which is pulled by coolies. It is a delightful method of traveling and the coolies make fast time.

A freight car, something after the jinrikisha, is in common use. In Tokyo alone there are more than 700,000 hand carts, almost 200,000 jinrikishas, about 10,000 ox-carts and 25,000 other freight carts.

Japan boasts of about 4,000 miles of railroads. It is said that 1,500 miles more are necessary. The rate of fare is one "sen" a mile for third class, two "sen" for second class, and three "sen" for first class. The speed averages about 20 miles an hour. The government owns most of the roads and will in time own all.

in 1872. It is built on the American plan. In 1877 Japan was admitted to the international postal union. The 25th anniversary of this event was celebrated in 1902 with great eclat. The postal system today is one of the best in the world.

THE BUILDING SEASON ARRIVES

With the arrival of March comes the beginning of the building season. The prospects are that as soon as the weather will permit extensive operations will be commenced all over the city.

Last March was the banner month of 1903. During that month permits were taken out for building to the amount of \$306,012, which far exceeded any other month. April, May, June and July are months when a large number of permits are issued. March did not surpass all other months in the number of permits issued, but in the value of buildings. It was in March last year that permits were taken out for two of the finest buildings in the city. The Provident Life Insurance company took out a permit for the Provident building, which cost \$150,000, and Judge Snell commenced the erection of the building now occupied by Rhodes Bros., which cost \$65,000.

As soon as the weather becomes more settled, the sound of the hammer will be heard and many new buildings will be seen arising on vacant lots throughout the entire city.

THE MARKETS

The following prices were quoted by wholesalers this morning:

MEAT AND PROVISIONS.
Fresh Meat—Cow beef, 7 1/2c; steer beef, 7 1/2c; veal, 8 1/2c; pork, 8 1/2c; mutton, 8@8 1/2c.

Provisions—Hams, 13 1/2@14c lb; breakfast bacon, 16c; bellies, fresh, 12 1/2c.

VEGETABLES.
White River burbancks, \$18.00 a ton; Yakima potatoes, \$24@25; sweet potatoes, \$2.75; carrots, \$1 sack; rutabagas, 75c sack; home grown cabbage, 2 1/2c lb; California cabbage, 2 1/2c lb.; cauliflower, \$1.00 doz.; California tomatoes, \$ 2.00 box; celery, 60@75c doz.; radishes, 10c dozen bunches; lettuce, \$1.25@1.50 box; Oregon onions, \$2.50@3.00 cwt; green onions, 10c dozen bunches; Hubbard squash, 2c lb; rhubarb, 12 1/2c lb.; hothouse radishes, 35c doz.; dry Chili peppers, 25c lb.

GREEN FRUIT, ETC.
Apples, cooking, 75c@81c box; Spitzenbergs, \$1.25@1.50; Baldwins, Wagners, Northern Spies, etc., \$1.00@1.25 box; east of the mountains fancy Greenings, 90c@ \$1 box; Winesaps, \$1.50@1.75; Ben Davis, \$1.15@1.25; Red Cheek Apples, \$1.50@ \$1.75; pineapples, \$4.50 doz.; Redlands oranges, \$1.40@2.40 box; lemons, \$2.50@3.00 box; cranberries, \$3.00; Persian dates, 6c lb.; bananas, \$2.50@3.00 bunch.

NUTS.
English walnuts, No. 1, 14 1/2c lb.; Chili Walnuts, 15c lb.; Ganoble, 15c lb.; almonds, 12c lb; pecans, 12@13c lb; Brazils, 12c lb; filberts, 15c lb; peanuts, fresh roast-