

# The Pullman Herald.

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## THE "GIRLLESS" WOULD COME

Automatic Phone Company Investigates and May Install System in Pullman

The day of the "line's busy" and of the phone rubberer may be short now for Pullman, and that modern blessing, the "girlless" phone, may come to pluck many of the thorns from the flesh of the user of the telephone.

A communication was received by the council Thursday evening from the general manager of the automatic phone company asking about conditions here, preparatory to a request for a franchise when the system would be installed.

The communication explained the many advantages of the automatic, not the least being the fact that your neighbor can not "rubber" and that there is no central to tell you that you'll have to try again, or to connect you up with an undertaking or a blacksmithing establishment when you want your grocer or your dressmaker.

The "automatic" idea seemed to strike a responsive chord in the hearts of the councilmen, and the clerk will see that all needed data is placed in the hands of the company.

In his letter Mr. Bishop, the manager, explains that the automatic system is now in successful operation in all the principal larger cities of the west, and in 68 cities in the east. Spokane and Walla Walla have just been connected up. In explaining the workings of the new system, Mr. Bishop says:

"In operating our automatic telephones, a child can manipulate them very easily. 1st, we have no operators to tell you the line is busy when it is not. 2nd, the number wanted is secured by bringing the number around to the point, press the button, and you have your party instantly unless the line is busy, which will be indicated by a buzz in the receiver, never missing forming you. 3rd, your conversation is strictly secret, barring all campers on the line.

"I will make the assertion, and feel safe in making same, that I can and will give you better, cheaper and far more satisfactory service than you are receiving at present, with an increase of 50 to 75 per cent in number of subscribers within a year, with an equal increase in business to your city—rendered from the use of telephones—also by employing men there and patronizing your merchants.

"For example, in Portland we employ at recent date over 500 men, so you see it means work for your city as well as a revelation in telephony."

### A PULLMANITE IN MEXICO.

An interesting letter has been received from J. W. Stearns, formerly of Pullman but now in Mexico, where he is inspecting lands with the intention of purchasing a large tract and locating a colony. Mr. Stearns in company with a number of well to do Mexicans, recently made a trip to the great grotto in the mountains of Oaxaca. The party set out from Tehuacan November 14 with large baggage. Attempts have been made before to explore the grotto, but owing to steep precipices no thorough examinations had been made. The party was fitted out with rope ladders, which aided them materially in their explorations. The party was under the direction of Padre Cuevas, a Frenchman.

From Teotitlan the party went to San Bernadino, passing through a rough country, past giant cactus 60 feet high and later through pine and fir forests. The farms along this portion of the road, he states, are on steep hillsides, where a misstep would mean that the farmer would roll 500 feet down hill.

Stops were made along the trail at various little towns, all of which have their peculiar characteristics. At every place the open handed Mexican

hospitality was offered the travelers. At many of these towns brass bands and men laden with fruit were on hand to extend a welcome. Three padres joined the party. Mr. Stearns remarks that there was no lack of padres and little chance to go wrong with them in the party.

San Geronimo, a town near the grotto, was the next station. Here there were feasts, bands, padres and presidents. When the party left the latter place for the grotto they were accompanied by all the local officers and a party of 65 sight seers. [At the mouth of the grotto the party was counted as it entered to guard against the possibility of leaving any behind in the cave.

"The entrance to the grotto was like the mouth of a dragon," said Mr. Stearns. "Just inside there were the great stalactites hanging from the roof and giant stalagmites rising from the floor, forming great rows of teeth for the great mouth and giving the one who enters the feeling that he was being swallowed by this giant monster.

"Each of our party had a lighted candle and when we passed from the light of the entrance it made a made a most weird procession. When we entered the first great room we saw a most dazzling and bewildering sight. The room was of immense proportions and was studded with crystalized stalactites and stalagmites of the most fantastic and beautiful designs. Some were of dazzling whiteness and others were dark purple. There were also great columns reaching from floor to roof and as perfectly shaped as though made for a Grecian temple. The floor was a solid mass of beautiful white crystal. The roof was like the roof of the Mormon Tabernacle, only very much higher and longer, but it arched in much the same manner. All of the roof was studded with the beautiful stalactites, in many places they formed great clusters like bunches of flowers.

"From this room we passed through a narrow entrance into another room called the pipe organ room. This immense room is about 800x1000 feet and perhaps 200 feet high. On one side is a great white column so fluted that it resembles a pipe organ. A native crawled inside it and when he struck the pipes they gave forth resonant sounds. Besides the organ is an immense column 50 feet high. Stairs were found on the inside leading to the top. This is called the pulpit. In the center of the room is an altar surrounded by vessels which appear to be very ancient. The place was evidently once used as a place of worship. On leaving the room we were forced to pass over the face of a cliff 100 feet high which we did by means of a rope ladder.

"We next entered a chamber with a river running through it. Here we found a number of old relics, among them human bones. Other rooms opened out of this. In one we found a pit which appeared to be bottomless. Rocks thrown into it brought back no echo. The room was as beautiful as those we explored previously. We finally entered a great room, the floor of which sloped down for a distance of 200 feet into a huge bowl, the sides forming an amphitheatre. We spent six hours in the grotto after which we left for refreshments, which were well earned."

The balance of Mr. Stearns' letter is descriptive of the country and the agricultural conditions. In speaking of the thrift of the natives, Mr. Stearns says: "If we were to cultivate Washington lands in the same way that these are cultivated and practice the same degree of frugality we could support a population of 75,000,000 people.

"A severe cold is working a great hardship on Councilman Baker, for that time-tried and fire-tested remedy in which he is indulging will force him either to unwrap his socks from around his neck, or to borrow one from some friend to hang up tomorrow night—we mean the sock, and not the neck, for hanging purposes.

## CITY TO DISPOSE OF LIGHT PLANT

Contract Made With M. J. Shields for Bringing Current to Pullman

The long drawn out discussion and agitation over electric current for light and power for the city of Pullman has at last reached a somewhat definite shape, and the city council Thursday night closed a deal with M. J. Shields, of the Moscow Electric Light and Power Co., whereby the latter is to bring its current to Pullman, and to also purchase the municipal light plant if the voters at a special election authorize such for sale. Propositions and counter propositions have been made the council till with each new one the question seemed to become more and more complicated, when the council concluded to go into the proposition making business itself.

As a result, a document covering the various phases from the standpoint of the city was drawn up and submitted to both the Moscow and the Colfax electric light people, and they were notified that the first one to meet the demands of the town could have the contract. Immediately upon receipt of his copy of the proposition Mr. Shields came to Pullman and accepted the conditions imposed with one or two minor changes, and the terms of the contract as agreed upon were ratified at the meeting of the council Thursday night. Mr. Shields was present at this meeting, and put up \$1000 as a cash bond for the faithful performance of his part of the deal, the \$1000 to apply toward the purchase price of the city's plant in case the people ratify the sale proposition.

Under the terms of the contract, the company represented by Mr. Shields is to purchase the present system of the city at the price of \$6000 cash, and is to have current here for both light and power by July 1st. A twenty-four hour service is to be given, and maximum rates, which are considered much better from the citizens standpoint, than those now in force, are established. Current for running the city pumping station is to be supplied at a stated rate, which it is estimated will save the city several thousand dollars annually. The proposition as accepted by Mr. Shields for the Moscow people, is as follows:

"The city of Pullman, Washington, having received propositions from both of you people—Codd and McKenzie of Colfax, and Moscow Electric Light and Power Co., of Moscow—for the furnishing of electric current to the City of Pullman and its inhabitants thereof, would respectfully reject said propositions and in lieu thereof by its council and mayor offer the following proposition.

"That we will grant to the first one accepting our proposition herewith set forth a franchise on the following terms and conditions:

"First—That you will furnish to the city of Pullman and its inhabitants electric current for light and power purposes for 24 hours each day, or what is called a continuous current. Sundays, lighting hours only.

"Second—That you will purchase from the city of Pullman, Washington, all poles, wires, transformers and other material that the city now has in use for its distributing system for the sum of \$6000 as soon as title to the same is transferred to purchaser, said purchase price to be paid as follows: Beginning July 1st, \$100 per month until paid.

"Third—That you will extend the poles and wires of said system to all parts of the city wherever patrons taking 15 or more 16 c. p. lamps can be served from one transformer.

"Fourth—That you will put in meters for each and every customer

at a rental of not to exceed 25 cents per month for each meter, or the customer having made a deposit of \$10 for the return of said meter on ceasing to use the same.

"Fifth—That you will furnish current not to exceed the following prices per k. w. hour: 13 cents for the first 50 k. w. hours, 11 cents for the second 50 k. w. hours, and 9 cents for all current over 100 k. w. hours used each month, minimum charge for current on meter basis, \$1.25 per month.

"Sixth—That you will furnish the city of Pullman current to run a motor for the pumping of the city water at the price of one cent per k. w. hour, said current not to be used for a period of four hours during the time that the peak of the light load is on, except in the case of fire or other emergency existing.

"Seventh—That you will furnish current to the city for the lighting of its streets and city hall for the price of two and one half cents per k. w. hour, you to install and maintain all lights on the streets and in and around the city hall that the city may need or require; provided that you shall not be compelled to put in any street lights in the outlying districts that is a greater distance than 500 feet from any transformer necessary to be put in for residence lighting; provided further that in the case of outlying street lights, incandescent lamps may be attached to the general circuit and the lights be paid for on the estimated amount of current used for time burned, on the basis of the above price stated.

"Eighth—That as soon as you shall accept this proposition, you shall file with the city clerk of the city of Pullman a bond in the penal sum of \$1000 conditioned that you will carry out the provisions of the acceptance of the said franchise on the terms and conditions above named as soon as the legal conditions necessary for the city to enter into the contract and grant the franchise can be carried out.

"Ninth—That as it is necessary for the qualified electors of the city to vote on the sale of plant that the city now has, that this proposition is made subject to the result of an election to be held for that purpose.

"Tenth—That the term of this franchise to be granted in accordance with this proposition shall be for the term of twenty years.

"Eleventh—That the city council of the city of Pullman at the end of ten years may readjust the prices that shall be maximum, provided that the same shall not be lowered to a less amount than the prices when named shall bear to the average price of eastern Washington plants as the price above named bear to the same plants at this time.

"Twelfth—That this franchise shall not be an exclusive one.

"Thirteenth—That in case this proposition is accepted by the people the Moscow Electric Light and Power Co. agrees to supply power not later than July 1st, '06."

### BRITT-NELSON PUGILISTIC PICTURES.

One of the most interesting branches of motion photography is the portrayal of pugilistic battles, and the advance made in this line of art is wonderfully evinced by the Britt-Nelson films, now on exhibition, and conceded by every one to be the best and most attractive ever shown. The first fight pictures ever displayed, showed a battle between young Griffo and Walter Campbell, and although posed especially for the camera, were blurred and unsatisfactory.

Then the Maher-Chlynski bout and the great Corbet-Fitzsimmons mill at Carson received the attention of the camera. Marked improvement was noticeable, but the pictures were still far short of perfection, rifts of light and shadow marring the effect and frequently coming in at the most exciting moments of the mill. The Jeffries-Sharkey contest was given fairly good picturing, but the same defects were still perceptible. A little over a year ago, the battle between Jack Root and George Gardiner, at Fort Erie, was the subject of motion photography, and the pictures then taken showed great improvement over the past. It remained for the Britt-Nelson films however, to illustrate the perfection which could be achieved with the motion cameras. These films were simply superb—clear, bright, every movement and detail faultlessly portrayed. They are not only a splendid set of pictures, but they mark an epoch in the history of motion photography. These pictures will be shown at the Auditorium on Thursday evening December 28th.

### NEW MASONIC OFFICERS.

Whitman Lodge, No. 49, F. and A. M., has elected and appointed the following staff of officers for the ensuing term:

Master—Levi B. Miller.  
Senior Warden—N. E. J. Gentry.  
Junior Warden—Edgar Harvey.  
Treasurer—Jesse W. Burgan.  
Secretary—D. A. MacCracken.  
Senior Deacon—W. M. Prater.  
Junior Deacon—Ross R. Rupert.  
Senior Steward—A. D. Baum.  
Junior Steward—S. H. Cameron.  
Tyler—H. N. Benton.  
Chaplain—Cyrus Spurgeon.  
Marshal—J. F. Baymiller.

The installation ceremonies of the officers of Whitman Lodge No. 49, Free and Accepted Masons and of Crescent Chapter No. 53, Order of the Eastern Star, will take place on Friday evening, January 5th, 1906, in Masonic Temple. Mr. D. S. Prescott, of Spokane, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Washington F. and A. M. will be installing officer. There will be a musical program and light refreshments will be served. All members of the Masonic fraternity and their families and members of the Eastern Star are cordially invited to attend.

### COMIC OPERA COMING.

The fascinating military comic opera, "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," by Stanislaus Strange and Julian Edward, authors of "Dolly Varden" and other highly successful comic operas will be presented at the Auditorium Friday evening, January 19th.

The story of the opera has to do with the period known as the Civil War and the music is suggestive of the familiar songs of that time, most of which have lived to the present time. An exceptionally attractive feature in the dressing of the opera is the enormous crinoline hoop skirts worn by the young ladies. There is a military atmosphere permeating the opera from beginning to end, which finds expression in the story, music and scenic environments. Mr. W. T. Carleton has selected a cast of exceptional excellence to interpret "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," with W. P. Carleton in the title role. Young Carleton is an ideal "Johnny."

Miss Corbin, of the public school teachers, has gone to her home at Coeur d'Alene, having resigned her position here to continue her studies in the State Normal school at Ellensburg. Her place in the school has not yet been filled.

Bright and frosty weather put a good deal of the spirit of Christmas time in a person, and Santa Claus will find the Palouse country up and waiting for his arrival.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jesse have gone to Spokane and Meyers Falls, where they will visit with relatives over holidays.

Walter Burns was down from Spokane the front end of the week.

## MORE ROOM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

One Department will be Housed in Congregational Church After the Holidays

Again has the attendance at the public school outgrown the capacity of the building, and the board has rented a room in the Congregational church which will be fitted up, and one of the primary grades will be moved into it after the holidays.

A year ago the attendance having grown till more room was necessary, the city hall was engaged, and fitted up with seats, blackboards, and the other paraphernalia of the modern school room, and it has since served its purpose admirably, and for a time relieved the stress, but now it has become necessary to engage room in addition to this.

The room that will be furnished for school purposes at the church is that part that is cut off from the main part of the building by the folding doors, and will make a very acceptable school room. But new school buildings in the city are an imperative need, and their construction is a problem that is causing a good deal of wear and tear on the gray matter of the directors.

### DEATH OF A VETERAN.

Monday evening Levi Crawford, veteran of the civil war and pioneer resident of Pullman, succumbed to an attack of apoplexy, and a well spent life was brought to a close when the spirit of the gray haired old gentleman was taken from its tenement of clay. Death came as a sudden summons, as Mr. Crawford had not been seriously ill up to a few minutes before his death, although he had suffered a first stroke of apoplexy Monday morning. The deceased served in the war of the rebellion with the 193rd Ohio infantry regiment. He located in Pullman some fifteen years ago, and was always an honored citizen, serving one term on the city council, and taking an active interest in municipal affairs. As a member of Whitman post, G. A. R. he was a loyal worker among his comrades, who mourn the loss of one whom all respected.

Besides his wife, the deceased leaves three sons, Ed. F. and Walter Crawford, of Spokane and Gilbert Crawford of this city, and one daughter, Mrs. Whitmore of Moscow.

Funeral services were held Wednesday morning, at ten o'clock, from the family residence on Military hill, being conducted by Rev. R. C. Sargent, pastor of the Christian church, of which the deceased was a member. The remains were followed to the depot by many sorrowing friends, from where they were taken to Moscow for burial.

The council had a busy session Thursday night, all members being present except Priest and White. The principal matter to be considered was that of the electric light proposition, of which full mention is made elsewhere. The street and highway committee was ordered to continue the work on north Grand street till the macadam road connects with the country road at the city limits. A petition, signed by various ladies on Mechanics hill, was read, protesting against the conditions of a street crossing at the Northern Pacific track. It being charged that the mud was "ankle deep" on the crossing. The city marshal will investigate the depth of mud, the petition being referred to him with "power to act".

Wm. Irwin, the well known farmer near town, has gone to his old home at Genesee, N. Y., for a month's visit, it being his first trip there for fifteen years. Here's hoping he'll have the pleasant time he deserves.

"Dodd" Taylor was in the city from Spokane Tuesday.