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The gentleman to the right of the reader (sketched from life) is wearing old style or pasted double-vision lenses. The lines of the reading wafers are noticeably prominent and he has difficulty in adjusting his eyes to the lenses. The cement used to join the two lenses has become clouded and has made his glasses misty.

The two figures to the left (sketched from life) are wearing Kryptok double-vision lenses. There are no seams on these glasses, because the reading lenses are fused invisibly within the distance lenses. These latter two persons are at ease, look dignified and comfortable.

Alfred D. Fairweather
Manufacturing Optician
PORT STREET HARRISON BLOCK.

NEW JERSEY'S PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FURNISHES VALUABLE LESSON TO TERRITORY

Allan Herbert Explains Workings of Plan and How Abuses Are Now Remedied

New Jersey's progress in governmental practice during the past two years has been remarkable. In the following article by Mr. Allan Herbert of this city, the public utilities commission plan followed in New Jersey is clearly explained. In view of the certainty that Hawaii will soon have a public service commission, the explanation of the New Jersey system and its benefits is particularly timely. In the second half of his article, to be published later, Mr. Herbert tells of the workings of the direct primary law in Gov. Wilson's State.

PUBLIC UTILITIES BILL.

This measure has been declared by many of the ablest lawyers in the United States to be the most stringent in the Union. "It has," as the Governor says, "teeth in it." It gives the public utilities board, appointed by the Governor, the power to investigate upon its own motion, or upon complaint of any one in writing, any public utility; grants the board authority to fix rates, to enter the premises of any public utility, to test appliances, to exact safe, adequate and proper service, to require a system of accounts and annual reports kept in such form as the board may prescribe; to determine whether increases of rates are reasonable, and to suspend the same where unjust, with the burden of proof to show that the increases are reasonable to its wholly upon the public utilities corporation making the same. No public utility can make any unjust discrimination or preferential rate, extend its indebtedness, or issue stocks or bonds payable in more than one year from date, without the consent of the board; nor can it sell, lease or mortgage, dispose of or encumber its property, without the approval of the board; nor to transfer its stock to other companies. The board may order and direct proper protection at grade crossings. It may refuse to make valid privileges or franchises granted to any public utility by any political subdivision of the state, where such privileges are not in the state's interest. The board makes its own rules for hearings, may exact any testimony, even though it incriminate witnesses.

Failure to comply with any order of the public utilities board makes the offenders subject to a fine of \$100 per day, and observance of the orders of the board may be enforced by mandamus or injunction, or by suit in equity. The misdemeanor clause of the law is as strong as an eight-ply Manila rope, and when the bill was in progress, the corporations kept a vigilance committee installed night and day in Trenton, seeking the elimination of this feature, in particular; but for once their efforts were in vain.

Law Stringent.

Under the law, any person or public utility corporation which shall perform or assist in performing any act prohibited by the law, or any public utility corporation which shall fail or neglect to perform its duties, as required by the act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

If any provision of the law is finally declared unconstitutional, no other provision is to be affected by the court's decision.

Although the present law has only been in force since May 1, 1911, several reprehensible evils of public service corporations have been corrected, and indications are that the interests of the people, as well as those of the corporations, will ultimately be conserved and insured.

Here are some of the most important things which the commission has done. A ruling has already been made which extends the street car transfer privileges in Newark, where 350,000 people are benefited. The Adams Express company has been compelled to extend its delivery service free to the Hill Crest section of Trenton, where it had formerly extorted excessive charges from the residents of that locality. The Consolidated Gas company has been required to reduce its rates for gas and electricity in sixteen communities. In Newark the Public Service

Railway company attempted to abolish school children's commutation tickets. The Public Utilities Board ordered these tickets restored and the Public Service company secured a court review, by certiorari, with the result that the Supreme Court sustained the action of the Board. The tickets are again in force. New Jersey commuters appealed in the Commission to secure a reduction of railroad rates between Jersey points and New York. Since this was a matter coming under the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission, out. State Commission urged, in claims of the commuters before that body, with the result that a reduction of rate schedules was ordered.

Ticket Evil Broken Up.

Heretofore, the railroads have refused to sell commutation and special-rate tickets from places within the State to Jersey City and Hoboken. They have only recognized New York as a terminal point. The Public Service Board has ordered that tickets must be sold to those commuters who discriminate against.

The Commission has made an order that corporations which receive certificates of approval for issuing securities must make half-year reports of the amount of stock or securities issued, sold, and delivered, and the extent to and the purposes for which the proceeds have been disbursed. This is, of course, to prevent stock-watering. A rule has been established which makes it mandatory that corporations operating under limited franchise shall continue to give safe and adequate service after the expiration of their terms of the franchise. Before ratifying a franchise the Commission may impose conditions which shall insure permanent efficiency of a corporation's service.

Telephone Service Improved.

The Board has forced a telephone company to give adequate service upon demand. It has ordered better protection at grade crossings, and has refused to approve the building of new grade crossings, where public safety threatened to be endangered. It has compelled the building of elevators in large tunnel-stations. It has ordered a reduction of Pullman rates to seashore points. It has required a railroad company to restore a bridge illegally removed. It has enforced proper safeguarding traffic on railroads and trolley lines.

In the interest of the corporations, and in justice to them, it has refused to approve a franchise of an independent gas company, where competition would have been wasteful and expensive. It has refused to order the Pennsylvania Railroad to build a station, at a place on its New York tunnel line, where such a building would have meant great expense to the company, and serious interference with its through passenger traffic.

More discipline of the corporations is on the way as soon as the Board can complete its data, where investigations are being conducted.

The Employers' Liability Laws of New Jersey were obsolete relics of past years handed down from a time when machinery was unknown. Our present law places the responsibility of looking after the injured on the employer, thus properly charging the expense against the cost of production, the same as any other expense, against the cost of production, the same as any other expense, instead of having the injured depend on charity. In the last analysis the consumer will and should bear such burdens. The new law makes provision for the equitable distribution of the money which heretofore has been wasted in litigation.

It may be operated under one of two sections. The first provides that the amount of liability for accidents shall be determined by suit in court, if the employer or employee shall so elect. Put in case of suit, the old "fellow servant" and "contributory negligence" clauses are eliminated. The second section provides for definite compensation for all injuries sustained by employees in course of their employment.

Workmen's Compensation Favored.

Recognizing that workmen's compensation means industrial peace and employers' liability industrial war, the public service and some other large

corporations have already made preparations for operating under the second section of the law, with the cheerful consent of those in their employ.

HUNGER-CRAZED LION ATTACKS AUTO PARTY

S. F. Examiner, Nov. 5: Chased by a hunger-crazed California lion on a mountainous stretch of road a mile west of San Gregorio, Julian Hurd and wife of Oakland had one of the most exciting experiences that has ever befallen a party of automobilists.

Early Sunday morning as the party was rounding a turn on the mountain-side the half-starved lion leaped out of the brush and hurled itself against the machine in an effort to pounce upon Hurd, who was driving. Although injured in this assault, the animal made several more attempts upon Hurd. Finally Hurd succeeded in shooting the beast.

After the first leap at Hurd the animal gave pursuit for several hundred yards and succeeded in jumping into the machine. Hurd stopped the car and reached for the iron starting crank. With this he struck and partially dazed animal. In a last effort the lion sprang at Mrs. Hurd, but another blow felled the beast.

Before Hurd could bring his revolver into action, the animal was upon him. It dug its claws deep into Hurd's flesh as he fired the shot into the lion's head, which proved fatal.

The Hurds then continued on their way to Redwood City. Dr. H. W. Taggart treated Hurd's injuries.

The injured man's hurts, while painful, are not serious. They consisted of a lacerated scalp, shoulder and arms.

Hurd is a well known insurance man of Oakland.

Within the last several years a number of farmers in the foothills have had battles with mountain lions.

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