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CONFERENCE REACHES AN AGREEMENT

SENATE LEADERS DINE AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND DISCUSS TAX REVISION.

SHORT VACATION FOR CONGRESS ADVISED

Revision is Held Necessary in the Fordney Tariff Bill by George C. Davis, Chief of the Comparative Values Bureau in the New York Customs House.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—A virtual agreement is said to have been reached at a dinner conference at the White House last night, for the senate consideration of the tax revision legislation before the permanent tariff act is taken up.

The President told his guests that he hoped both branches of Congress would recess about the middle of August until the latter part of September, but was opposed to any recess of either body until the tax revision bill was passed by the house.

Revision Held Necessary. Overhauling of rates in the Fordney tariff bill will be necessary to permit its effective administration, the senate finance committee was told Tuesday by George C. Davis, chief of the comparative values bureau in the New York customs house.

Mr. Davis declared that if congress adopted the American valuation plan of levying import duties, even more radical changes in the rate would have to follow.

Time Waste Opposed. The sales tax as a method of raising any part of the \$4,000,000,000 of federal revenue next year is opposed by members of the house ways and means committee, Chairman Fordney said Tuesday, at the opening of the tax revision hearings. Only four days have been set aside for the hearings, and Mr. Fordney suggested that witnesses refrain from consuming time in discussing such a tax.

Imposition of a "purchase tax," repeal of the excise taxes on candy and bottled soft drinks, and amendment of the estate tax provision, were among suggestions made to the committee by witnesses. In addition, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, in a communication, urged repeal of excess profits taxes and war excise taxes. In their place a tax on all turn-overs was urged.

SOME WHEAT IS CONTRACTED

LOCAL BUYERS PURCHASE FOR EXPORT.

Price is Less Than Dollar for August and September Delivery in the Grande Ronde Valley.

Some of this year's wheat crop is being contracted by local buyers for August and September delivery, although the demand is not very brisk and little is being offered. Wheat for August delivery is being bought at 93 cents per bushel, f. o. b. La Grande, and for September delivery at 92 cents.

No wheat has been contracted for delivery later than September, practically all that is now being contracted being for export shipment on cargoes that will be shipped in the next two months.

Farmers generally seem to be holding for a little more money where they are able to put off selling, \$1 a bushel being the price many of them would like to get. Wheat buyers aren't very optimistic about a dollar a bushel this year and if their expectations are realized a dollar will be top price paid this year.

WRECK TIES UP TRAFFIC

A flat car loaded with lumber overturned at 4:50 last night about half a mile west of Leonard, near Durkee, in Baker county, and caused traffic to be tied up until late at night. A wrecker was sent from La Grande to clear the track. All westbound trains were delayed.

The cause of the accident is not known. No one was injured.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS MEET DEATH

BANFF, Alberta, July 27.—The body of Dr. W. E. Stone, president of Purdue University, was found Sunday at the bottom of a 75-foot precipice. Mrs. Stone was found alive at the bottom of a 17-foot crevice. She will likely recover, but is suffering very seriously. Both were missing from the Walking Camp Tour camp at Ft. Assiniboine. Both were enthusiastic Alpinists and experienced mountain climbers and were attending the walking tour in order to be in fit condition for the Alpine meet at Lake O'Hare this week. The couple, whose home is at Lafayette, Ind., have been missing since July 15. When they left the camp they had enough food with them for about four days.

Dr. Stone is the second university head to die this week. Samuel C. Black, president of the Washington and Jefferson university, of Washington, Pa., having died early Monday after a two weeks' illness growing out of complications resulting from an attack of influenza last April. He was on a honeymoon trip to the national parks.

BUILDING IS TO BE REMODELED

According to plans which have not been finally concluded and which are subject to revision the John Gardner business building, occupied by the C. D. Putnam drug store will probably undergo a remodeling which will change its appearance very much.

A white pressed brick front is to be erected, heating plant installed and the second floor to be modern in every respect for tenants which already have leases on it.

Mr. Gardner is here to personally look after the work and he expects to receive bids on the intended improvements within the next few days.

INVESTIGATION BEING MADE

No action has been taken against Andrew Neyrs and Benito Farlon, Mexicans, who ran hold in the county jail pending an investigation of the Hildard robbery last week. Officers believe that they are professional yeggmen and a thorough investigation is being made.

RELEASE OF U. S. PRISONERS ASKED OF BOLSHIEVISTS

RIGA, July 27.—The official demand by Secretary of State Charles E. Hughes, for the release of the American prisoners in Russia, was handed to the Bolshevik minister here by the American consul last night.

JOBS SCARCE BUT MEN ABUNDANT IN LA GRANDE

The jobless men yesterday were much in evidence while jobs were scarce. At the city free employment office around 50 men applied during the day and all of them were turned away. Not a job was there to be had anywhere so far as the free employment office was concerned. Only a few days ago jobs were so plentiful that it was hard to secure enough men to fill them.

The Charter Election

A discussion of the different amendments to be voted on August 9th.

Amendments Nos. 2 and 4 (Concerning Elections)

This amendment and the next one are merely changes to make the charter harmonize with the state laws. The number of election booths and the hours, and the manner of obtaining a copy of registrations by precinct, are all made to conform with the state laws and the adoption of amendments No. 2 and 4 will remedy all present faults. It is generally agreed by attorneys that the state law in all its phases would have to be conformed with even if the voters did not adopt this measure. Consequently it stands to reason that the plausible thing to do is to make the charter and the state law harmonize.

Amendment No. 4. The same argument applied to No. 3 is applicable to No. 4.

APPLE CROP ESTIMATES SHOW BIG RETURN TO GROWERS THIS SEASON

FARMERS ARE FOR LOWER RATE

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

BAKER, July 27.—The two most prominent things brought out in the recent investigation carried on at Washington by the national commission of agriculture inquiry pertain to freight rates, and extension of European markets, according to V. Swift, national vice-president of the Farmers' Union, who has returned to Baker from Washington where he presented testimony to the commission.

The testimony presented, Mr. Swift stated, indicated the western farmers lay particular stress upon the handicap to the farmers of high freight rates, while at the same time agreeing with the farmers closer to the Atlantic seaboard that the European markets are much to be desired.

The Atlantic farmers, in their testimony, seemed to reverse the importance of the two, placing the necessity of European markets first, but agreeing that lower freight rates would go a long way toward relieving conditions.

Many other things were brought out in the testimony tending to show contributing causes throughout the country, but these seem to be the leading factors as shown by the testimony being presented to the commission.

This freight handicap to the western farmer does not apply only to the products of the farm. The farmer naturally has to pay freight on his crops to the markets in which they are sold. The cost of transporting the products to the market is deducted from the price paid the farmer, and the farther he is from the market the higher the freight and therefore the greater the deduction. The farmer as a class is also a heavy consumer of machinery and other things on which he pays freight.

Mr. Swift says interest in the investigation is very keen, and it is generally hoped a solution that will prevent recurrence of the present stagnation will be the result. The commission seems to be making an honest effort to get to the bottom in its investigation and is gathering a vast volume of data from all parts of the nation.

WEATHER FORECAST.
Tonight and Thursday, fair, with moderate westerly winds.

SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS CONSERVATIVE 1921 CROP PROSPECT

CROP SHORTAGE EXCEPT IN WEST

Conditions Right For the Grande Ronde Growers This Year—Delicious Trees Beginning to Bear at Various Points—No Oppression of Serious Nature From Apple Pests

Six hundred thousand dollars is the bedrock cash value of Union county's apple crop as it stands today and as will be harvested in due course of time, having uniformed exigencies. The Observer makes this prediction after a careful inspection of every apple belt in the county and after talking to conservative estimators and shippers from Elgin to Union and all way points. In some sections, particularly Elgin, large orchards are producing 100 per cent crops, and, again, the production drops in a few isolated cases to 60 per cent of normal, with an average for the county above 90 per cent—closer to 100 than 90. With the east, middle west and the southern apple belts in no instance above 40 and more generally 8 to 10 per cent of normal, a corresponding increased demand will of course exert itself in this vicinity. The best crops, and naturally the biggest, as areas are greater there, will come from Elgin and Inbier.

Community Estimates Compiled. The Observer has gone into the subject at much length and detail with painstaking observation and the figures, published herein, are under, rather than over, the actual crop. The figures given are strictly of commercial apples, actually shipped out of the valley, with the one exception of Inbier where a few prospective carloads of culls for cider and vinegar are embraced. But the home consumption that doesn't reach the cars at all, will far more than offset this incidental inclusion of culls. The estimate is ultra-conservative.

The estimates by communities are as follows:
Community cars
Elgin 70
Inbier, Alford 250
Mt. Glenn, Weathering 30
May Park, Emeraldale 60
Union 30
Cave 20

Total carloads 460
Expressed in boxes the item becomes 345,000 and this makes possible an expression of cash value.

Guess Made at Cash Value.
This phase of the estimate is of course more hazardous than the output of lambing ewes.

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BIG PLUM IS ON GIFT TREE

SERVICE MEN'S ATTORNEY TO BE NAMED

Lucky Man Will be Able to Draw Fees Amounting to \$10,000 For Examining Abstracts

Some attorney in Union county will have an opportunity of drawing fees totalling around \$10,000 by being appointed attorney for the purpose of examining the abstracts given as security by applicants for the state loan to former service men. A fee of not to exceed \$10 is allowed the attorney and as it is expected that at least 80 per cent of the 1200 ex-service men in Union county will take advantage of the loan feature of the law instead of the bonus feature it will be possible for the attorney to be appointed by the executive council to make this sum. The executive council is headed by Governor Olcott.

It is expected that the appointment will be made on recommendation of the American Legion and Roy Currey, commander of the local post, expects to recommend three attorneys for this purpose. He has refused to make public the men the Legion will recommend but it is understood that several have asked to be named.

Although there are about as many attorneys in this county as in the average county of its size, so far as Mr. Currey knows there isn't an ex-service man among them.

It is understood that some of the attorneys who want to be recommended have announced their willingness to forego the fees allowable under the law, which would amount to donating \$10,000 as a sort of post-war patriotic offering. Others who have announced their willingness to examine the abstracts are willing to accept the remuneration that they are entitled to.

GROWS SUNFLOWERS.

Ensilage is Used by Sheepmen for Feeding Sheep.

PENDLETON, July 27.—Three hundred acres of sunflowers are being grown for silage in Umatilla county this year and this type of ensilage will be used in half the 26 silos in this county.

The majority of the sunflowers grown in Umatilla county are grown by the Smythe interests, the total being 150 acres and the ensilage is used for feeding sheep.

Hampton & Gulliford, west end sheep raisers, use ensilage for feeding lambing ewes.

HENRY ALBERS IS TAKEN BY A HIGHER POWER

PORTLAND, July 27.—J. Henry Albers, retired millionaire miller, whose conviction on the charge of violation of the espionage act was recently set aside by the United States Supreme Court, and whose retrial was ordered, died today at his home in Milwaukee, Oregon. Death was due to paralysis.

Albers was sentenced to serve three years at McNeill's island prison and pay a \$10,000 fine by the local federal court for violation of the espionage law. The verdict was affirmed in the circuit court of appeals, but reversed in the supreme court after Solicitor-General Frierson confessed error. The case has been remanded back to the Oregon federal court for "further proceedings."

The Albers case has caused much interest through the Pacific Northwest. Following an examination last week made by Dr. Joseph F. Wood, at the request of the government, Dr. Wood confirmed the report that Albers was insane, blind and paralyzed, a request was forwarded to the attorney general to have the case dismissed for the present.

IS HELD FOR INVESTIGATION

H. J. Leay, who says he hails from Eagle Valley, was arrested yesterday afternoon and held for investigation by the police. Leay was driving a Vette car with a battered license plate on the rear and none in front, the license belonging to a Ford roadster owned by a local farmer.

Leay declared that the car belonged to William Widmer of Eagle Valley, and that he was given permission to come here with the car. The prisoner did not have a driver's permit when arrested.

This morning when Leay's case was called in municipal court he failed to appear and the \$15 bond which he had deposited was declared forfeited.

COUNTY MAY HAVE MANAGER

SACRAMENTO, Calif., July 27.—Sacramento county will be the first county in the United States to adopt the manager form of government if a movement now under way is successful. Petitions have been signed calling for an election of freeholders to draft the charter. While there are a number of cities in the United States having the Manager form, Sacramento recently being added to the list, there is as yet no county operating under this governmental method.

CRUDE OIL MAY TAKE A JUMP

According to the Texas Oil Ledger, an oil publication published at Fort Worth, Texas, crude oil is very liable to take a jump from its low price soon. Crude oil dropped from \$3.78 to \$1 a barrel in the last few months, but now, according to that newspaper, there is talk of offering contracts for forty cents to a dollar advanced to run six months.

IRISH ARE NOT YET AGREED ON THE CONFERENCE

DUBLIN, July 27.—Eamonn De Valera and his colleagues have not yet found a basis for the proposed conference with the British government but are continuing their search for a common ground, according to an authoritative statement.

ARMY AND NAVY BUYING MAY BE DONE TOGETHER

WASHINGTON, July 27.—The executive order coordinating the purchasing for the army, navy and the shipping board and permitting the transfer of supplies from one agency to another, has been signed by the president. The order originated with Gen. Dawes.

NEW HOSPITAL PLANNED

SACRAMENTO, Cal., July 27.—A \$750,000 hospital is soon to be erected in Sacramento. Thirty-eight Sacramento doctors led the financing of the structure with subscriptions of from \$1,000 to \$5,000 each.

ORIGINAL ROUTE IS APPROVED

CITY COMMISSIONERS AND THE COMMERCIAL CLUB AGREE

WAY CHEAPER THAN ON PALMER AVENUE

Vote of Thanks Extended to Those Active in Bringing Harmony Into Road Situation—Mrs. George Currey Lauded Highly For Her 'Pioneering' Efforts in Behalf of Route Selected.

At a special luncheon held by the Ad club this noon that body went on record supporting the city commission in favoring the McLellan survey for the proposed Oro Dell scenic route. The matter was discussed from various angles and a motion made by George Currey to approve of the city's action was unanimously carried.

J. D. McKennon, city commissioner, in speaking for the city commissioners, stated that Commissioner David L. Stoddard and President W. D. Grandy had decided to favor the original McLellan survey, which retains all the scenic beauty of the original proposition to have a scenic entrance into the city, instead of coming into the city via Palmer avenue.

Mr. McKennon pointed out that the added cost in entering the city via Palmer avenue would make it much cheaper to pay damages demanded for a portion of the right of way. Jerry Foley, through whose land the proposed route goes has consented to give right of way through his property, believing that the property will be greatly increased in value. The hospital also has consented to let the road cut through its property without asking any damage.

As the matter now rests the Oro Dell highway will be built according to the original plan, which provided for the best scenic effects obtainable. Formal action by the city commission on some of the details will be taken tonight, all commissioners holding in unison on the matter, assuring the people of La Grande that tonight's action will be final.

R. A. Baldoek, division engineer of the state highway commission, addressed the club and briefly reviewed the history of the proposed highway.

City Manager George Garrett told the club that much credit is due those who first conceived the idea of a scenic highway. He pointed out that when he first came here as city engineer, Mr. Collier, who was city manager then, worked hard in behalf of the proposition and that Dan McLellan also deserved much credit for the surveys he made.

C. E. Short paid a deserving tribute to Mrs. George Currey, who was the first person to suggest a scenic highway. Mr. Short told the members of the club that Mrs. Currey conceived the idea and did much hard work in behalf of the road. She went before the women's clubs in La Grande and interested them in it and it was due to her hard work that the project is about to be realized.

Elmer Stoddard, in behalf of the people of Perry, asked the club to ask the county court to use its influence to have the road to Perry graded this year instead of merely graded. A motion was carried which put the ad club on record favoring this matter. Mr. Baldoek explained that it was feasible to gravel that section of the road this year as there are no bad hills, while the upper section of the road has many big hills which must be allowed to settle over winter.

A vote of thanks was extended by the club. In a motion made by Mr. Short to the city, the city commission, the county court, Engineer Baldoek and Mrs. Currey for the cooperation received by the club's committee in putting the Oro Dell road through.

The resignation of the Finance committee was accepted by the club and President E. P. Mosaman was authorized to appoint a new Finance committee.

POUL TAX LARGE

SACRAMENTO, Cal., July 27.—The state should get more than \$2,000,000 from the alien poll tax, according to estimates by the state board of equalization. Each alien is subject to a tax of \$10.

