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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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JUST AND RIGHT—A God of
truth and without iniquity just and
right is he.—Hebrews 1:9, 10.

It Is Police Work

When congress takes up for consideration suggestions for relieving the internal revenue bureau of the duty of prohibition enforcement it should give serious thought to the advisability of separating this work entirely from the treasury department. Secretary Mellon has given his approval to a proposal for creating a bureau of prohibition within the treasury department, but only because there does not seem possibility at present of putting the business of enforcement where it belongs. Mr. Mellon favors transferring this work to the department of justice and there it should go.

There never was any sound reason for making the treasury department responsible for prohibition enforcement. The fact that the secretary of the treasury is otherwise burdened should have constrained congress to act differently in the first place. But because the internal revenue bureau in times past had made an enviable record in running down 'moonshiners' it was adjudged the proper agency to enforce the prohibition law. Yet the 'revenuers' of thrilling memory never were concerned about preventing production and sale of intoxicating beverages their task was to prevent and punish illicit traffic, which was defined as that which had not paid legal toll to government. With the coming of prohibition the government's chief interest in intoxicants ceased to be collection of the tax. Enforcement of prohibition is police work and not properly the work of tax collectors.

Logically the prohibition bureau should be a division of the department of justice. If congress cannot be induced to make it so the next best thing is to act on Secretary Mellon's advice and take it out of the internal revenue bureau.

How the Debts Pile Up

In the 10 years from 1912 to 1922, the net indebtedness of 24 states of the union has been increased from approximately \$1,134,000,000 to \$2,561,000,000. States customarily are slower in incurring indebtedness than are other political divisions. Yet in the 24 commonwealths referred to, the list not including Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois or Ohio, the increase in 10 years was 129 per cent, or \$1,427,000,000. Sub-divisions of states have bonded themselves to even a greater extent.

Herein is visible the cause of a large share of the increased taxation of which there is so much popular complaint. For local debt service taxation is levied more directly than for carrying and discharge of state or national indebtedness. But state debts bear a direct relationship to local taxation. And all public indebtedness bears a direct relationship to the cost of living. Whether or not one owns taxable property or is in receipt of a taxable income, the taxes are passed along to the ultimate consumer so that no one who pays his own way escapes bearing a share of the burden.

All these public obligations are represented by bonds held by those who furnish the cash the public required when resort was had to credit for securing money. The enormous total of these obligations is freed of taxation. The effect is to compel heavier levies against other forms of property. The tax-free character of public obligations makes them popular with large investors. But the worst feature of the discrimination is the ability to borrow money at low rates when money is worth more in the open market encourages the public authorities in habits of extravagance.

Royalty on the Move

Mercurial Greece is headed, momentarily at least, toward a republican form of government. That seems logical after the overthrow of the monarchy, but it is by no means certain that royalty has been forever banished from Greece. Already there is talk of retaining the monarchical form but with new blood on the throne. The king habit is fixed in most of the Old World and the Greeks may find it less easy to get along without a crowned head nominally ruling over them than some of them now think. The republican form has found favor in other lands, notably in some of the countries constituted through the action of the Versailles congress. Yet, in spite of popular belief that kings had 'gone out' as a result of the war, there are signs that royalty is almost indispensable to millions of people. It may prove so in Greece after the present political upheaval has been quieted in a degree.

The healthy sign about the elimination of royal dynasties that is still taking place is the breaking of ties between governments that before the World war were potential of political evil. Through politically arranged marriages of royal princes and princesses monarchs effected alliances that extended their influence beyond the borders of their legitimate domain. The Hohenzollerns were adepts in this species of political manipulation and the woes flowing from their operations will be felt throughout Europe for generations. Surviving royalties have hoped to perpetuate the system, some minor dynastic heads regarding the present situation as favorable to the making of new alliances that would increase their power.

FIND IT HERE

Copy for this column must be in by 9:00 a. m.

Boston Traveler: That old situation, the straw ride, has largely disappeared, but we have more and more straw votes.

Item-stitching, Pleating.
Tuition holes, buttons covered, clamping. Mail orders given prompt attention. All work guaranteed. Fancy art goods, D. M. C. Thread and Baby Wear.

The Stitching and Art Shop,
Mrs. L. H. Norton,
1115 Adams Phone Main 533
9-11-1m

This age may be remembered as the one in which the graphic arts became pornographic.

Notice.
Call Main 1 for prices on high grade Delicieux and Jonathan apples. 12-25-1f

Stockholders Annual Meeting.
Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the La Grande National Bank will be held at their banking house in La Grande, Oregon, on Tuesday, January 8th, 1924, at 10 o'clock A. M. At this meeting a Board of Directors will be elected to serve for the year 1924 and such other business will be transacted as may properly offer.

P. L. MEYER,
Cashier.

Annual Stockholders Meeting.
Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the United States National Bank, of La Grande, Oregon, will be held at their banking rooms on Tuesday, January 8th, at ten o'clock A. M., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of any other business that may come before the meeting.

T. J. SCROGGIN,
Cashier.

A few pretty boxes of very fine and up to the minute stationery of pretty patterns are now on sale at our store. Silverthorn-Wright's Family Drug Store. 12-26-1f

Some high class perfumes in neat and inexpensive packages. A good value to the customer at Silverthorn-Wright's Family Drug Store. 12-21-1f

Houghton Furn. Co. 40lb cotton Mattress for \$10. Compare this Price. 12-18-1f

A few special packages of pretty very in new stationery of this year's story run. See them at Silverthorn-Wright's Family Drug Store. 12-21-1f

Violet Cream, the best value in a liquid cream sold and at only 25c a bottle at Silverthorn-Wright's Family Drug Store. It is fine for rough skin or chapped lips or hands. There is nothing better sold and few preparations are as good. Why not try it? 12-26-1f

We are offering at a very close price for one week, one of the best line of warranted hot water bottles made, also combination hot water bottles and fountain syringes. It will be worth while to see us about these goods at Silverthorn-Wright's Family Drug Store. 12-26-1f

If you have not a bottle of Germicide and Dandruff Radiator, you surely want one for it sure stops dandruff in short order. It stops the hair from falling in a few days. If the roots of the hair are not dead it will come new hair to grow in a few weeks. It sells 25c a bottle at Silverthorn-Wright's Family Drug Store. 12-26-1f

Rent, sell and repair all makes sewing machines. Ask about free dressmaking course. White Sewing Machine Co., New Foley Bldg. 522-W. 12-27-1f

Notice of Bond Sale

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the undersigned until the hour of 1:00 o'clock P. M., the 14 day of January, 1924, and immediately thereafter publicly opened by the commission of the City of La Grande, Oregon at the Commission Room in the City Hall in said City for an issue of City of La Grande Improvement Bonds in the sum of \$500,000, and the sum of \$250,000 each, except one odd bond for \$75.00, said bonds bearing date January 2, 1924, maturing ten years from date; optional, however, at the pleasure of the city at any semi-annual coupon date on and after one year from date, said bonds bearing interest at six per cent (6%) per annum, payable semi-annually, principal and interest payable at the office of City Treasurer, said bonds being issued under the provisions of the so-called "Bancroft Act."

All bids must be accompanied by a certified check for \$5,028.55 and must be unconditional.
The approving legal opinion of Messrs. Teal, Winfree, Johnson & McCulloch will be furnished the successful bidder.
The Commission reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
J. E. STEARNS,
Recorder of City of La Grande.
12-28-1f

Plastering done promptly. 1208 Avenue. 12-21-1f-10b

Notice to Creditors.
Notice is by this given that the



TOMORROW

STARTS OUR PRE-INVENTORY CLEARANCE SALE

EVERYTHING REDUCED THROUGHOUT THE STORE

This is not a spasm brought on because it's the style—but, we start our new firm's fiscal year on February 1st, hence, to make the desired stock showing and replacement room for our new lines bought for Spring, we are reducing our prices on the present merchandise for your benefit and our loss.

Take advantage now—Don't delay—Every article we show is of standard, high quality make, and will certainly bear inspection. We want your friendship—your trade and you to come back often—hence our care in the selection of our goods.

Men's Wool Shirts
20% DISCOUNT

Men's Leather Vests
25% DISCOUNT

Men's Shoes
Dress and Work All-Leather Shoes in
1923-24 Styles

Work Sox - Dress Sox
20% DISCOUNT
15c Pair

SPECIAL LOT MEN'S

Shoes
Florsheim Make
Sizes 6, 6½, 7

\$3.75

SPECIAL LOT MEN'S

Hats
Mallory, Stetson and
Knox Makes

\$2.50

Men's Suits
Overcoats

Rain Coats

Highly tailored, newest models and colors—mostly Kuppenheimer make—

25%
DISCOUNT

Young Men's and full size Men's models to select from.
EVERYTHING REDUCED



SCRANTON & SHORT, INC.

OBREGON TO
BE GIVEN U.
S. ARMS SOON
(Continued from page 1)

ment to the time or place when any of the supplies are to be turned over to Mexican forces. Reasons of military prudence would require the Mexican officials to control the route by which the arms are to be taken into Mexico, so far as that is possible. The deliveries, however, will be made from the depots at the Eighth army corps area.

Difficulties of the Obregon government in transporting military supplies to the active front between Vera Cruz and Mexico City are increased by the fact that the rebel stronghold at Vera Cruz closes to the federal forces the sea route of delivery.

There have been no large outbreaks of revolutionary activity in northern Mexico, however, and presumably officials at Mexico City

are satisfied that they can safely transport arms and ammunition from the border to the Mexican government store houses in the capital.

The Mexican embassy Sunday night gave out the following summary of advice from Mexico City dealing with the progress of military operations:

"General Amaro's federal troops have clashed with the Guadalupe rebels under General Estrada and forced them to evacuate La Harca. The rebels retreated, destroying large stretches of railway with the federals in hot pursuit. The Ocotlan bridge, across the Lerma river, was partially wrecked and government engineers are repairing it to facilitate the offensive.

The fully equipped federal forces now are closing in on General Estrada on three sides and a complete victory is expected.

General Martinez continues his successful offensive to suppress the few remaining rebels between

Puebla and Vera Cruz on the eastern front. He has forced their retreat beyond Esperanza. Troops under General Almazan have arrived at Carrizal in the south and are operating successfully there.

"The secretary of the interior in a formal statement declared that the presidential elections would be held in July, since the peace of the republic is not seriously disturbed and the rebellion is now practically suppressed.

"The chamber of deputies has decided to call substitute deputies to replace those who deserted with the la Huerta.

"Railroad and telegraphic communications now are in complete control of the government and trains are running as far as Yucatan on the west and Oriental on the east. The lines from the border to Mexico City have never been disturbed."

Rebels are Confident.
A statement summarizing advice from Vera Cruz given out here Sunday night by representatives of the De la Huerta group said the action of the United States in deciding to sell war materials to the Mexican government had caused "neither special surprise nor consideration in provincial government circles."

U. B. T. says

WE CLOSE AT 3 PM



"It takes sixty-five muscles to make a frown and only thirteen to smile. Why waste energy?"

La Grande
NATIONAL BANK
SOUND-RELIABLE-PROGRESSIVE

THE OLD HOME TOWN

Py Stanley



WHITMAN'S
For
New Year's
A real surprise and a rare treat to anyone who receives a box of these choice confections.

Sampler Packages
\$1.50 - \$3.00 - \$4.50

RED CROSS
DRUG STORE