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MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 131

COUNTY TAX
LEVY FOR '27
IS 17.9 MILLSFigure Applies to Those
Residing Within the
School DistrictsIS INCREASE OVER
LAST YEAR'S LEVYExtra Mill Made Nec-
essary by Heavier Road
Bond Redemptions,
County Court Says.The Union county tax levy for
the year 1927 was fixed by the
county court this week, when a
meeting was held at the court
house for that purpose.The tax levy on all property in
the county, inside of the school
districts, will be 17.9 mills, which
is one mill higher than the levy
last year. Outside of the high
school district an additional .22
mills will be added to the 19.7
mills for the purpose of paying for
students attending high school, who
are not living in the high school
district.More Bond Redemptions
It was necessary to increase the
tax one mill this year because of
more road bond redemptions than
in previous years. Instead of \$60,-
000 in road bonds this year, there
will be \$20,000, an increase of \$40,-
000.This tax levy is for both state
and county purposes. It is based
on the 1926 assessment, and the
first half will be collected May 5.
The second half will be collected
Nov. 5.COLD WEATHER
KEPT TEACHER
FROM SCHOOLSeveral of the rural schools were
closed this week because of the
snow and blizzard weather. E. A.
Sizemore, county superintendent,
reports.The Lone Star school was closed
part of the week because the
teacher was unable to get there,
and the Rock Creek school, in
which a teacher was unable to
attend because of the illness of
the teacher. The teacher in the
Mt. Glen school has been called
to Portland by the illness of
relatives and Miss Leta Pearson,
of La Grande, is substituting for
her.Legion Drive For
Members Near EndThe American Legion members-
hip drive, which has been going
on for the past month, will end
tonight when a special meeting
of the post will be held at the city
hall. Plans will be made for the
first regular meeting of the new
year, Wednesday, Jan. 3, when
the leaving team in the members-
hip contest will banquet the win-
ners.There will be a special program
at that time besides the installa-
tion of the 1927 officers.

SEEK LOST MAN

OREGON CITY, Ore., Dec. 17
(AP)—Albert Straight, Portland
man, is being sought in the heavily
wooded district around Colton,
about 15 miles northeast of this
city. He went rabbit hunting sev-
eral days ago and has not been
heard of since.Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Budd, also of
Portland, who came with Straight
to Colton, brought word of his
disappearance to the sheriff to-
day. Straight recently purchased
a small place at Colton.YOU
ARE THE
JURYA business man's claim on
your trade and his assertion that
he can satisfy you in service and
quality and price constitutes his
case "before the bar." You are
his jury—and if he succeeds in
convincing you of the excellence,
value, and desirability of what
he has to sell, he wins the case
—you vote his way—and you
vote in the form of dollars and
cents spent with him.The only logical way in which
he can keep the "evidence" in
his case constantly before you,
the "jury," is by advertising
messages in The Observer. By
this means he can maintain daily
contact with you—he can tell
his story, present his "witnesses"
in every possible light. And,
fortunately, the cost per "jury-
man" is by far the lowest of any
method available to him, and is
a real service to you."Observer Advertising—
A Merchandising Service"Hi-Dads Hosts
To Members of
Football SquadTom Bruce, 1926 Center,
Elected Next Year's
Captain—Coach Re-
ceives Strap-Watch.Tom Bruce, center on this year's
football squad, was announced as
the 1927 captain of the Blue and
White football team last evening
when the Hi-Dads of La Grande
were hosts at the annual banquet
given for the football players at
the Sommer hotel.Granddad W. C. Perkins pre-
sided as toastmaster at the ban-
quet and called upon several mem-
bers of the organization for im-
promptu talks. Those responding
were Dr. W. P. McAdory, A. T.
Hill, E. S. Eakin, J. E. Reynolds,
J. T. Longfellow and E. D. Tow-
ler.The Rev. George A. Pollard
gave the principal talk of the
evening, which was enthusiastically
received by the students and
Hi-Dads. His subject was "The
Habit of Success."Coach Ian McKenzie was pre-
sent in spite of a slight illness and
made a few remarks. Irvin Zund-
el, president of the high school
student body and end on the foot-
ball team, thanked the Hi-Dads
for their support and cooperation
during the past season.Coach McKenzie was given a
strap-watch by the team, Captain
Smith, making the presentation.
Bruce responded with a few words
after he was announced captain of
next year's team.Sixty persons, members of the
Hi-Dad organization and high
school football players, were pre-
sent.CLYDE BLOOM IS
FINED BY COURTSentenced to Pay \$300
and Costs on Posses-
sion ChargeClyde Bloom was found guilty on
a charge of possession of intoxicat-
ing liquor yesterday, when he was
tried by a jury of six in the justice
court here. Bloom was sen-
tenced to pay a fine of \$300 and
costs by Judge Hugh E. Brady.Bloom was arrested Nov. 3 by
prohibition officers here, with
moonshine in his possession, they
report.He has been arrested for alleged
violations of the liquor law in the
past.Forbid Trailing
On Main StreetsTrailing behind automobiles will
not be allowed on the main streets
of La Grande, it was announced by
Police Chief Clint Haynes. Trailing
will be permissible on streets
that are not subject to heavy traf-
fic and when the auto driver does
not permit reckless.In cases where autos dragging
loads are driven recklessly, the of-
ficer's word will be sufficient, the po-
lice chief declared.Smith Silent as
To His IntentionsCHICAGO, Dec. 17 (AP)—
Frank L. Smith, of Dwight, Ill.,
bought Christmas presents in Chi-
cago's loop today with no intima-
tion whether he would accept ap-
pointment to the present short
session of congress.While in Washington a perturbed
senator awaited his decision, the
most definite thing Smith would
say was that he might have a
statement later in the day. Aside
from a conference with Allan
Moore, republican national com-
mittee man from Illinois and mem-
ber of Smith's successful cam-
paign for senator Smith had no
meetings with party leaders on his
day's program.Bandits Loot Bank
Of About \$79,000KANSAS CITY, Dec. 17 (AP)—
Bandits held up a messenger and
a guard of the Fidelity National
Bank and Trust company on a
downtown corner here today and
escaped with \$79,000.The money was being taken from
the federal reserve bank to the
Fidelity bank for use in making
up week end payrolls.There was no shooting and the
robbers escaped in a motor car.
The holdup took place at the en-
trance of the Fidelity bank at
Ninth and Walnut street.

NAME NEW HEADS

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 17 (AP)—
Dr. G. L. Hurley of Eugene, was
elected president of the Lane
county medical society at the an-
nual meeting last evening. Dr.
Delbert C. Standard, of Eugene,
was elected vice president, and
Dr. L. S. Kent, also of Eugene,
was reelected secretary treasurer.SILVER THAW
IN UMATILLA,
WEST OREGONOld Oregon Trail Near
Pendleton Is Said to Be
Nearly ImpassableHIGHWAY WORKERS
CLEARING ROADSBuses Running Late as a
Result of Icy Routes
and Snows Drifted by
Strong Winds.A silver thaw in Umatilla coun-
ty, making the highway coming
up the hill on the other side of
the Blue Mountains almost im-
passable, was reported here this morn-
ing. The road over the mountains
was in good condition late yester-
day afternoon, but the thaw caused
many cars to be detained there this
morning.East of here and on the La
Grande-Eglin highway a high wind
is blowing. No word of trouble on
the Baker-La Grande road was re-
ceived at the highway offices this
morning, but reports of bad drifts
on the La Grande-Eglin highway
reached here. Men and equipment
are working there constantly to
keep the road open.Roads Hard to Travel
The status running between Pen-
dleton and Baker and from La
Grande to Joseph are encountering
considerable difficulties because of
the conditions of the state high-
ways.At last reports runs were being
made up the branch line but the
Old Oregon Trail highway's con-
dition caused the postponement of
the 9:25 a. m. stage out of here
for Baker. The bus from Pendle-
ton arrived about three hours late,
reporting icy roads. A stage bound
east left here just before one
o'clock.Trains Run Late
Train service has also been af-
fected during the past few days,
several passenger carriers running
late. No. 24, coming from Port-
land, has been having considerable
difficulty, arriving about noon fre-
quently. This is partly due to heavy
Christmas mail, it is said.The minimum temperature in La
Grande yesterday was 25 above
zero and the maximum 35 above.
During the night a heavy wind
swept the valley, drifting snow to
several feet in depth in many
places.

SILVER THAW IN MULTNOMAH

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 17 (AP)—
Outlying sections of Portland ex-
perienced a silver thaw this morn-
ing, but the downtown residential dis-
tricts and the central part of the
city escaped. The temperature was
hovering near the freezing point in
the early hours, but by noon the
sides had cleared and the sun
shone.Steel cars in the districts af-
fected by the silver thaw were off
schedule for a while this morning.
Trains were running as usual and
buses were running except on the
upper Columbia highway.The Western Union Telegraph
company had some trouble in the
Columbia gorge last night but con-
ditions were restored to normal
this morning.Bus services was suspended to-
day on the Columbia river highway
because of icy conditions east of
Trentdale. Long distance tele-
phone wires were down between
Portland and Hood River, and a
result of the silver thaw, and
heavy sleet.Congressmen of
West Want ActionWASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—
A concentrated effort was made
by senators and representatives of
western states before the house
rules committee today to obtain
action at the present session of
congress on the bill confirming
state's titles to school lands granted
by the federal government.The measure would have the
government relinquish mineral
rights, which they now hold on
school lands of 13 western states
and which now may be confiscated
by the government if it can be
shown they were known to con-
tain minerals at the time they
were granted.The act under consideration was
introduced by Chairman Sni-
ffett, of the house public lands com-
mittee.Former Treasury
Official PassesNEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP)—
John Aikman Stewart, 84, Wall
Street financier and once assistant
secretary of the U. S. treasury,
died at his home here today of
pneumonia.NEW YORK—Homelessness has
its advantages. Mrs. Cora Dorian,
39, accused by a jury after her at-
torney pleaded: "How can this wo-
man, old and unattractive, have
any appeal for any man?"HERR MARX'S
GOVERNMENT
IS DEFEATEDGerman Cabinet Resigns
Following Vote of Non-
Confidence TodayACTION FOLLOWS
DEBATE YESTERDAYCharge That Arms and
Munitions Were Being
Stored in Russia Pre-
cipitated Move.BERLIN, Dec. 17 (AP)—The
government of Chancellor Marx to-
day resigned after being defeated in
the reichstag, 249 to 171 on a
vote of non-confidence.The cabinet, which was automati-
cally ousted by the adverse vote,
will tender its formal resignation
to President von Hindenburg this
evening. It is expected that he will
ask Chancellor Marx and his min-
isters to carry on temporarily un-
til after the new year. The reich-
stag after the vote adjourned un-
til Jan. 19.

COALITION DEFEATED

BERLIN, Dec. 17 (AP)—The
bourgeois coalition cabinet of
Chancellor Marx formed last May
after the overthrow of the Luther
ministry today was defeated in the
reichstag on a non-confidence mo-
tion introduced by the social dem-
ocrats.The motion was introduced yester-
day after Philip Scheidemann,
leader of the several democratic
groups, had charged that a monarchist
military clique was secretly or-
ganizing a huge illegal army re-
serve and was undermining the
reichswehr as an instrument of
the republic.The charges were denied by
Chancellor Marx, but Scheidemann
continued to cite names places and
figures and to prove his conten-
tions, among them being accusa-
tions that munitions and arms were
being stored in Russia.His charges produced bedlam in
the reichstag and shouts of "trait-
or," "blackguard" and "thief" were
hurled at him.Scheidemann also charged that
Minister of Defense Gessler was a
"tool" of the monarchist "junk-
ies" and demanded the entire cabi-
net resign to be replaced by one
made up of republicans.The reichstag adjourned last
night without taking a vote on the
motion, but debate was resumed
today.Stock Exchange
Prices Surge to
New High PointNEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP)—
Wall Street's joy at the unexpected
distribution of \$200,000,000 mil-
lion to common stockholders of United
States Steel corporation was re-
flected today in one of the greatest
"bull" movements in recent stock
exchange history.With sales running almost 3-
600,000 shares for the day steel
common set the pace, mounting
5 1/2 points to a new high record
for all time at 140 1/2. Common
stock of the Atchafalaya railway, one
of the Morgan enterprises which
was expected to make a generous
distribution to stockholders next
year shot up six points to a new
price. National lead soared 12
points and scores of others jumped
all the way from a point to an ex-
treme of 25 points.NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP)—
President Coolidge is one of the
20,000 owners of United States
steel who will benefit in the dis-
tribution of the 10 per cent stock
dividend.The president is one of the
smaller stockholders.Airmail Pilot Is
Progressing NicelyMEDFORD, Ore., Dec. 17 (AP)—
Rt. B. (Pat) Patterson, airmail
pilot whose plane crashed into the
face of a bluff in the foothills of
the Shashiyas about noon yesterday,
was reported by his physician this
morning as "bright and cheerful
and progressing nicely."The broken leg the aviator sustained in
the crash was set this morning.
He has a badly burned hand, a
crushed bone in the pelvic region,
and a mangled hip. Patterson will
never fly again, physician said.While on the operating table im-
mediately after the accident, Pat-
terson was close to death from
shock, but rallied.Failure of instruments to register
altitude correctly was given by
Patterson as the cause of the
crash. He thought his elevation
was higher than it was.

WILL HE GET IT?

That Count Ludvig Salm von Hoogstraeten is to receive a half-
million dollars to desist from his separation suit against the
former Millicent Rogers was the report when the trial in New York
adjourned for five weeks. Custody of his young son, Peter, is
the prime object of Salm's action. This is the first picture taken
of the two since the count returned to the United States.Modern Girl Is
Given Praise by
Science, SocietyNEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP)—
The "flapper" has the approval of
science and society as represented
by Thomas A. Edison, of electrical
fame, and Hedy's Martin, of New
York's "four hundred."The autographed inventor says
in an interview in the Forum that,
far from believing the younger
generation is "going to the dogs,"
he is convinced that its morals are
better than those of its fathers and
grandfathers, and infinitely better
than those of remote ancestors.Martin, known as a member of
Manhattan's older aristocracy, ex-
presses his approval of the flapper
in McClure's magazine, declar-
ing her more honest than her
mother was, and much more honest
than her grandmother ever
dared to be.Advancing Civilization
Edison advises reformers to
leave the flapper alone, asserting
that she is all right and that her
manner of dress is both simple and
beautiful, which he characterizes
as probable signs of advancing civi-
lization. He refuses to be per-
turbed by the dancing of the
younger generation, which he con-
sidera healthful recreation rather
than a craze.Martin says that the modern
young woman may exaggerate sex
to some extent, but he praises her
manner of dress as a social honesty."Truth of Loving"
"Whatever her faults," he says,
"the flapper is ready to accept and
acknowledge the truth of loving,
which is the greatest forward
step any generation has taken."
"Scandals were not wholly un-
known in the Victorian time," he
added. He credits the flapper with
putting fun into society. It is now
made up of a number of sets, he
said, in which any man or wo-
man can find something he or she
likes and "escapes the necessity for
attending the terribly formal and
boring rounds of set function
which constituted the social life in
say, Mrs. Astor's day."Robbers Tie Up
Women; Get \$165PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 17 (AP)—
Using the same tactics as those
of robbers who held up a road
house near here recently, three
men entered the home of Mrs. H.
A. Prosser, at East 112th street
and Gilbert road, last night and es-
caped with \$165 in currency and
jewelry valued at \$1,200.Telephone wires to the house
were cut, and Mrs. Prosser and H.
C. Halliderson who were in the
house, were bound by the robbers.Cold Spell Keeps
Man, 106, at HomeHOBOKEN, N. J., Dec. 17 (AP)—
Because of the cold spell, J.
Kupper Byer, butcher, doesn't feel
equal to celebrating his 106th
birthday anniversary tomorrow by
calling on President Coolidge in
the white house. Instead, his nine
children and 42 grandchildren will
give a party at his home.Byer visited the president a year
ago and at that time Coolidge ex-
pressed the hope that his guest
would return on each birthday for
many years.Mussolini Views
America Through
Friendly EyesItalian Premier Has Al-
ways Longed to Visit
U. S., He Tells A. P.
Correspondent.ROME, Italy, Dec. 17 (AP)—
Premier Mussolini has always longed
to visit the U. S., he told a cor-
respondent for The Associated
Press in an interview at his office
in the Chigi palace."I have often thought of visiting
America," the duke declared. "In
fact as long as I am remembered,
I have always wanted to see your
country. A people which built
rapidly with its own hands such
colossal fortunes and formidable
power could not fail to attract me
strongly.""Then, my sympathy is greatly
increased when I notice that, de-
spite the fact that an ocean di-
vides us, our revolution and the
work of fascism have been
more quickly and more completely
understood in America than in
many other countries separated
from us by a few hours train
journey."A Temple of Energy.
"America's understanding of our
movement is easily explained if it
is considered that your pioneers
raised with their robust arms on
the virgin soil of America a temple
to a new goddess which is the
same to which all fascists have
raised a similar temple on the
banks of the Tiber—energy."The recent drastic national de-
fense decrees, he said, were issued
for the sole purpose of protect-
ing the "productive rhythm" of the
Italian nation.Fascism has nothing to fear
from its enemies at home or
abroad, he added, but since it is
using every bit of its energy in a
struggle for development of the
national strength, it cannot afford
for the sake of some abstract prin-
ciple of freedom, to permit indi-
viduals or groups to restrain its
march upward toward the supreme
goal."The provision effecting revoca-
tion until further order of the li-
censes of certain newspapers," the
premier said, "must not be in-
terpreted as a breach of principle
of liberty of the press or of criti-
cism."Fascism Unfraid.
"It is well that every one know
that fascism does not fear either
verbal or actual antagonists. Fascism
is sure of being able to re-
sist sitting by any criterion of
criticism because no barrier or pa-
per can check its vital progress."What fascism refuses to admit is
liberty of libel, which, moreover
is most severely banned by Ameri-
can legislation. Vulgar insults and
apologies of crime must be re-
pressed not only when they ex-
plode criminally in the streets or
public squares but also in journal-
istic haunts during the preparatory
phase of crime. That is to say,
we insist upon tranquility and se-
curity for the Italian people whose
productive rhythm must proceed
without being disturbed."Furthermore, it placed the farm-
er-labor senator, Shipstead, of
Minnesota, in an unusual strate-
gic position. This has been recognized
by republican leaders and some
of them have suggested that he be
invited to join their councils and
accept committee assignments as a
republican. Whether the sugges-
tion will go further and whether
Shipstead would accept such an in-
vitation remains to be seen.Meanwhile, however, Shipstead
wants action at this session on
farm relief. After the Christmas
recess, he has announced, he in-
tends to press for agricultural legis-
lation and if something isn't done
about it to his satisfaction to re-
sort to filibuster "or any other
honorable means at this or the next
session."A prolonged filibuster might up-
set the legislative plans of repu-
blican leaders and by preventing
action on the farm relief legisla-
tion measures force an extra ses-
sion, which they hope to avoid.The senate fight over admitting
(Continued on Page 5)Prosecutors In
Favor of Direct
Plea to CourtsPORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 17 (AP)—
The Oregon District Attorneys'
association will ask the next legis-
lature to present to the people a
constitutional amendment provid-
ing that persons charged with
criminal offenses and who wish to
plead guilty may do so in circuit
court without the formality of a
grand jury indictment. This was
decided upon by the association
which opened a three-day session
here yesterday.Stanley Myers, Multnomah
county district attorney, who pre-
sented the proposed amendment to
the meeting, pointed out that it
would save the counties the ex-
pense of presenting a case to the
grand jury and would help relieve
the congestion of court dockets.The district attorneys do not
want in any way to change the
present grand jury system as re-
gards persons who want to stand
trial, but they believe there would
be a great saving of money and a
great alleviation of delay brought
about by permitting pleas of
guilty to be entered in the courts
upon information filed directly by
the district attorneys," he said.
The convention will end tomor-
row with election of officers.Klamath Falls, Ore., Dec. 17
(AP)—The Evening Herald today
received a dispatch from Wash-
ington stating heads of the South-
ern Pacific and Northern Lines
were there to meet with the in-
terstate commerce commission and
that they would report inability
to agree on the commissions plan
of common use of the Southern
Pacific line from Pampa, to
Klamath Falls.

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Rain in the west,
snows in the east portion tonight
and probably Saturday. Clearing
Saturday. Not much change in
temperature.FARM RELIEF
HOUSE BILL
ON ITS WAYFulmer, of South Caro-
lina, Introduces Com-
panion MeasurePOLITICAL LINEUP
BECOMES A FACTORShipstead, Farmer-Labor,
With a Powerful Vote,
Seeks Action During
Present Session.WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—
A companion measure to Senator
McNary's new farm relief bill was
introduced at the house end of the
capitol today by Representative
Fulmer, a South Carolina democrat.The development grew out of an
effort to associate the west and
the south in support of a farm
relief plan and settled a week of
discussion over the naming of the
legislative new comer. It will be
the McNary-Fulmer bill.Representative Fulmer's bill dif-
fers in but one respect from that
of Senator McNary. It would sup-
pend operation of the equalization
fee on cotton for two years after
passage, but Fulmer said he under-
stood Senator McNary was agree-
able to the alteration.The measure might have become
the McNary-Fulmer-Fulmer bill
had not Representative Purnell, re-
publican, Indiana, delayed attach-
ing his name to it while he waited
for the opinion of his new chief on
the agricultural committee—Chair-
man Hagner.Ask \$100,000,000
A lump sum appropriation of
\$100,000,000 for public building
construction throughout the coun-
try was proposed in a bill intro-
duced today by Representative
Keed of New York, a republican
member of the public buildings
committee. The amount would be
added to the \$100,000,000
provided for this purpose by con-
gress last winter.Won't Eliminate Item
The house today refused to elimi-
nate from the alien property bill
a provision declaring an Ameri-
can policy of non-confiscation of
property of enemy nationals.

POLITICIANS WORRYING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—
The political lineup of the next
session of the senate has become
an element in the farm relief bat-
tle confronting the current session.When the electorate went to
the polls Nov. 2 it decreed that
the senate, after March 4, should
be comprised of 48 republicans, 47
democrats and one farmer-labor
member. That with the prospect
of several contests over republican
seats and the ever present possi-
bility that insurgent members of the
party might not go along with the
majority, automatically made the
problem of organizing the senate
of the next session one of the
more than ordinary complexity.Shipstead Powerful
Furthermore, it placed the farm-
er-labor senator, Shipstead, of
Minnesota, in an unusual strate-
gic position. This has been recognized
by republican leaders and some
of them have suggested that he be
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