

TAX PROGRAM IS PREPARED FOR OREGON

Four or Five Prospective Bills May Wipe Out State Tax on Property.

CALL MEMBERS OF TAX COMMISSION

House Bill 174 May Be Dropped, But This Does Not Mean Immediate Return of Money.

SALEM, Feb. 13 (AP)—Out of a series of conferences by legislative leaders during the past two years has grown what is considered the well-defined tax program of the present session. It embraces a group of four or five prospective bills calculated to wipe out completely the state tax on property next year and thereafter by increasing the rate of the present tax law from 5 to 4 per cent, re-enacting the intangibles tax act with an 8 instead of a 5 per cent rate, and possibly increasing the rate of the income tax rate from 1 to 2 per cent instead of from 1 to 5 per cent as at present.

The assessment and taxation committees of the two houses have formulated this program after calling into conference the members of the state tax commission, one of the conferences being in the office of Governor Julius L. Meier yesterday.

May Drop H. B. 174
If this group of measures is launched the committee will drop house bill 174, which provides for enactment of a retroactive intangibles tax law at the 5 per cent rate to cover incomes for 1929, and which was designed to make unnecessary a refund of the tax collected for that year under the old act that was held unconstitutional by the supreme court.

This does not mean, however, that the tax committees will surrender immediately to the demand for a refund. It is planned to include another bill in the new group which would authorize a refund of collections under any tax act that might be invalidated by the courts. An effort will be made to apply the intangibles case to the United States supreme court. Should the court refuse to accept the case, or should it affirm the state supreme court, then the general act authorizing a refund would be applied to the intangibles collections of 1929. After a study of authorities tax writers think there is no doubt that the case is appealable, since the state court's decision hinged on the interpretation of a provision of the federal constitution. It is probably out, however, that should the tax commission make the refund now, or should the house bill providing for a refund be passed by the legislature, the intangibles tax case in which the state supreme court made its decree would remain simply a moot case and probably not be accepted in the court at Washington.

No Higher Than Average
In defense of the proposal to enact a new intangibles law with an 8 per cent rate it is argued that this is not as high as that in many states and no higher than the average.

In their calculations looking to elimination of the state tax on property the legislators are generally considering the 2 mill elementary school tax, which is not considered a state tax although it is administered by the state tax commission.

Assuming that the excise and personal income taxes were not changed and the intangibles tax not re-enacted it is estimated that the levy on property in 1932 would be \$4,428,240. By increasing the rate of

WALTER HALL GETS YEAR IN COUNTY JAIL

In circuit court this morning Walter Hall, recently convicted on a charge of illegal possession of a still, was fined \$50 and sentenced to serve one year in the county jail.

Victor Seaborg, convicted on a forgery charge Wednesday, was given the maximum sentence of two years in the state penitentiary.

The court adjourned until nine o'clock Monday morning, when the case of the State of Oregon vs. Charles L. Poffenberger will be tried. Poffenberger is charged with illegal possession of a still.

Auditors Begin On County Books

Charles R. Logan, of Portland and The Dalles, today began the work of auditing all the county treasurer's records, which will probably require several weeks' time, for all records will be carefully checked, as usual.

Logan and his assistants are here today, and additional assistants will arrive in a few days. Mr. Logan has audited the county records three times in previous years, and is therefore familiar with the local situation.

WEATHER FORECAST

Oregon: Increasing cloudiness tonight and Saturday, unsettled in the west portion.

No changes in temperature. Moderate southeast winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY
7:30 a. m.—20 above.
Minimum: 20 above.
Condition: clear.

Birth Control Bill Hearing On In Washington

Scores of Advocates Pack Senate Judiciary Subcommittee Room During the Day.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—Scores of advocates of birth control packed the committee room today as hearings on the Gillett bill to legalize dissemination of contraceptive information opened before a senate judiciary sub-committee.

The day was to be devoted to hearing proponents of the bill, with opponents to be heard tomorrow. The bill of the late Senator Gillett, Republican, Massachusetts, was described "as the most important piece of social legislation to come before you at this time or any other time," by Mrs. Thomas N. Hepburn, of Hartford, Connecticut. She declared the question of birth control is at the bottom of all prevalent ills, including poverty and unemployment.

Traces Its History
Mrs. Margaret Sanger, of New York, the country's foremost birth control advocate, was introduced by Mrs. Hepburn.

A woman of middle age, quietly dressed in brown, Mrs. Sanger traced the history of the birth control in the United States.

Speaking in an earnest voice, she contended the federal law now in effect "interferes with laws in 47 states that permit a physician to give his patient scientific contraceptive information."

Evangelists To Be Speakers At Baptist Church

Albert and Daniel Rosoff, father and son, recognized as the greatest evangelists to the Jews, will occupy the pulpit of the Baptist church here Sunday at 11 o'clock and again at the evening service at 7:30. The father is a singer of international reputation, and has appeared in this country and abroad on the concert platform and in grand opera with the world's greatest voices, including Caruso and Melba. He will sing at both services.

Daniel, the son, is a powerful and dramatic speaker, having been a practicing attorney in Detroit previous to his conversion. At one of the services he probably will tell how he, a Jew, was converted to Christianity, and also his wife and his father. Daniel also has musical ability, and father and son sing duets as well as solos. He is a graduate of the Detroit College of Law and the University of Michigan.

They have spoken, and in many towns there were no auditoriums large enough to care for those who wished to hear the messages. Rosoffs wish to give a special invitation to people of the Jewish faith to attend the services here. Everyone is welcome.

Organize Union County For Red Cross Campaign

Mrs. Charles Graham, of La Grande, who is chairman for the Red Cross campaign in the territory outside of La Grande, has been busy with her committee members organizing different centers in Union county, in the effort to complete the raising of the county's quota of \$1000 for the relief of the drought sufferers.

The committee has met splendid cooperation and will soon have someone responsible in each of the centers to receive any contributions. It is hoped that the work of organization may be completed by Saturday.

The committee announces that any amount will be acceptable, and the small gifts as well as the larger ones will all be necessary to secure the county's quota. A list of contributors is published, this committee assured all county contributors that no amounts will be released for publication. All gifts are equally acceptable, they state.

An arrangement has been made with the Blue Mountain creamery of La Grande, the committee also announces, whereby those who wish to assist in this movement, and who have no cash contribution to make, may bring in contributions of wheat and this will be converted into cash.

Baker Not Selling Butter Substitute

BAKER, Ore., Feb. 12 (Special)—At the request of the Baker county butter committee all but one of the food merchants have agreed not to sell butter substitutes. The committee called on grocers Wednesday afternoon and gave out cards bearing the words, "We do not sell butter substitutes."

Grocers in the small towns will also be asked to co-operate in the movement to eliminate the use of butter substitutes.

Phil T. Poffenberger was elected committee chairman and Mrs. Dorothy Parkins was elected secretary.

Tax Meeting Will Be Held Feb. 21

Following two meetings held here yesterday, the closing day of the tax conference, it is announced today that the Tax Equalization league has called a public meeting to be held at the Sacajawea Inn ballroom on Feb. 21 at 2:30 p. m. All who are interested in taxation problems are invited to attend. This subject is of major importance to property owners.

NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED BY 24 MEMBERS OF MUSSOLINI

Slate Cleared for Election of 12 Chamber of Commerce Directors

GIVE PREFERENCE FOR PRESIDENT

Members May Signify Their Choice — Ballots to be Returned Not Later Than Feb. 21.

Twenty-four members of the Union county chamber of commerce have nominated and have accepted their nominations, it was announced today at noon. Ballots with the 24 names and a space wherein one may write his preference for president will be mailed soon and must be marked and returned to the chamber of commerce office not later than Saturday Feb. 21.

The nominations follow:
E. C. Coote, Lester Bramwell, R. A. Green, Charles Reynolds, George H. Curry, P. A. Epling, H. E. Brady, A. W. Nelson, Harry McKinlay, P. R. Finlay, Fred Henning, Dr. Ray Murphy, Gene Walker, J. T. Longfellow, Chet Thompson, K. J. McWilliams, Charles Playle, Max Sarvis, George Birnie, J. S. Jenkins, Hugh Leonard, Oscar Warnock, H. G. Avery and Ernest DeLong.

TIGERS TO MEET BAKER QUINTET

Close, Exciting Game Anticipated — Baker to Send Fans to Contest

La Grande High school will make its fourth attempt to break into the winning team of the "Big Four" of Eastern Oregon tonight at the Re-creational hall when it plays the Baker High basketball team. The Tigers have been defeated one game each by Baker, Pendleton and Mac-Hi, and hope to reverse the count, at least against Baker this evening.

The contest is scheduled for 8 o'clock and the largest crowd of the season is expected.

Tomorrow night the Tigers go to Union.

BAKER TO PLAY TWO GAMES

BAKER, Ore., Feb. 13 (Special)—The Baker Bulldogs will play two of their most exciting games Friday and Saturday evenings with La Grande and Wallawa. The Baker-La Grande game on Friday evening will probably be the toughest game of the season. The Bulldogs have defeated them once this season by a very small score. If the Baker players have any breaks at all they will probably win the contest. Since Baker has already beaten them once this will make La Grande more anxious and determined to win this game. A close score will no doubt be a close one.

The Wallawa team will play the Bulldogs Saturday night in Wallawa. This will probably be the toughest game of the two because the Wallawa team is tougher than ever on its own floor, but the Bulldogs defeated them also in a recent game.

WILL IMPROVE MARKET ROAD NEAR SUMMIT

In accordance with the request of a committee from Medical Springs Union county, has taken occasion to call a session asking that work be provided for the unemployed of that vicinity, the county surveyors are now laying out a 1 1/2 mile project of straightening and improvement on the Catherine Creek-Medical Springs market road on the summit about six miles this side of Medical Springs.

The surveying work is being delayed somewhat because of the application in that locality is still covered with 16 to 18 inches of snow. However, the work will probably be completed by the middle of next week, and a number of men will then be given employment in clearing, grading, and straightening this section of road.

Queen Helen May Wed Col. Skeletti

LONDON, Feb. 13 (AP)—Bucharest society reports that Queen Helen, unable to hold the love of her handsome prince, now King Carol, plans to marry a Rumanian officer, Colonel Skeletti, were published here today.

All of Oregon Counties Placed In "Drouth" List Are Not Pleased

Offer of the secretary of agriculture to provide relief from the drought fund to ten Oregon counties has not met with approval from Oregon, according to a news dispatch sent to the Oregonian last night from its Washington bureau. The story continues: At least not all of the ten counties desire relief and some, particularly Union county, has taken occasion to resent the imputation that it has had crop failure or is in financial difficulties. Everyone thought Oregon did not belong in the drought class until farmers from Gilliam county met and sent a request for loans to finance their summer plowing. This request was directed to Senator Stelwer, who submitted it to Secretary Hyde.

Secretary Hyde communicated with Paul Marias, of the extension service of Oregon State college, inquiring about Oregon conditions. On the advice of Mr. Marias, the secretary announced that ten counties were eligible. He named the counties and the first protest came immediately from

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SCOTLAND YARD UNDER FIRE



This is the entrance to Scotland Yard, London's famous detective headquarters, now under fire. The yard and the city's police force are under command of Lord Byng (Inset), whose resignation has been demanded on grounds of age and inefficiency. Reports show 21 unsolved murders within three years, three of them occurring in January of this year.

Present Day Is Test For Ideals Of Pres. Lincoln

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—Through a microphone placed upon the table at which Abraham Lincoln signed the emancipation proclamation, President Hoover told the American people last night that the present furnishes a critical test for the principles and ideals of his great predecessor.

"Today as in Lincoln's day, he told his radio audience, states' rights, the relationship of federal, state and local government's responsibilities, form the dominant problem."

"Victory over this depression and over our other difficulties," he said, "will be won by the resolution of our people to fight their own battles in their own communities, by stimulating their ingenuity to solve their own problems, by taking new courage to be masters of their own destiny in the struggle of life. This is not the easy way, but it is the way."

It's Friday The Thirteenth So Watch Your Step

CHICAGO, Feb. 13 (AP)—Don't forget to watch your step today. Avoid falling out of ten, twenty or even thirty story buildings. Keep out of the way of trolley tracks. Don't strike matches near open cans filled with gasoline. It's Friday the 13th, chief. Stay out of them all the way. Look at the calendar.

THIRTEENTH CHILD BORN

MARION, Ore., Feb. 13 (AP)—Friday the thirteenth brought the thirteenth daughter to the home of J. and Mrs. Chaucer Chandler, who reside on a farm near here. The other children are 20 years of age and the youngest daughter is 20 years of age and the youngest daughter is living and reside with her parents.

Spinal Meningitis Epidemic "Raging"

SHANGHAI, Feb. 13 (AP)—Kuo Min news agency of the national government said today a spinal meningitis epidemic was "raging" in Chekiang province.

A Hangchow dispatch said that out of 112 cases at Haining, 70 miles southwest of Shanghai, 610 died. Provincial authorities were said to be responding to "widespread urgent calls from various areas asking help."

President Signs Sunnyvale Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—President Hoover has signed the bill creating a dirigible base at Sunnyvale, Cal., and has recommended to congress that appropriations be made available to start work immediately.

House of Commons Defeats Dry Bill

LONDON, Feb. 13 (AP)—The House of Commons, by a vote of 137 to 18, today rejected the bill which would have prohibited the use of alcoholic liquors as beverages throughout the United Kingdom.

More Quakes Hit In New Zealand

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Feb. 13 (AP)—A large section of New Zealand was rocked today by severe earthquakes. In the Hawkes Bay region of North Island the tremors were much more intense than those which devastated the district last week.

Shocks of varying intensity were recorded also throughout the Otago province of South Island. Chimney's fell at Queenstown and household goods were dislodged in Dunedin. Communications with Napier and Hawkes Bay area were disrupted, but later re-established.

Compromise Plan Wins Support Of House Committee

\$700,000,000 Veterans Compensation Measure Opens Way For Loans Twice as Large.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—Chairman Hawley of the house ways and means committee today announced the treasury was preparing a statement to present administration views on the bill to increase loans to veterans.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—The house ways and means committee today recorded against the house way and means compromise plan. The vote was 17 to 4.

The four committee members recorded against the compromise were: Chairman Hawley, Representative Treadway, Massachusetts; Childs, Illinois; and Ramseyer, Iowa, Republicans.

Hawley said those opposing the compromise "want time for further investigation to see whether additional legislation is required to raise revenue to meet the payments."

The committee yesterday adopted a modified Bacharach proposal to increase the loan value of veterans' certificates to \$700,000,000.

The original plan was sponsored by Representative Bacharach, Republican, New Jersey.

The plan is estimated to cost between \$600,000,000 and \$700,000,000, Representative Ramseyer, Republican, Iowa, said.

The bill would reduce interest rate. The measure also would reduce the interest rate on loans to 4 1/2 per cent. The increase is from 2 1/2 to 50 per cent of the face value of the veterans' certificates.

As approved by the committee, the measure would enable veterans to borrow more than twice as much money as under the existing law.

TRAIL SUSPECTS ACROSS NATION

Georgia Men Arrested, One at Helix, Ore. And The Other at Centralia

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—Trailed across the continent for two months by a Tennessee sheriff, two alleged murderers were under arrest in the Pacific Northwest today. They are John Edgington and Hugh Bowen, charged with slaying W. R. Kingston near Chickamauga, Ga., December 13 last. Edgington was captured at Helix, Ore., near here last night and Bowen was arrested at Centralia, Wash.

Under the personal direction of Sheriff Charles C. Taylor, of Chatanooga, Tenn., local sheriff's officers watched Edgington for several days. When he was arrested last night letters found on him revealed Bowen's whereabouts and he was arrested at Centralia. Sheriff Taylor left a short time later to take him into custody. Edgington was held here.

Edgington and Bowen allegedly killed Kingston to collect \$10,000 in insurance money carried by Bowen. Sheriff Taylor said. He said that after asserting murdering Kingston, the two mutilated his face with shotgun fire in order to destroy his identity. Then they allegedly dressed the body in Bowen's clothes, placed the insurance papers in his pockets and left the body on a roadside near Chickamauga.

The two disappeared, Taylor said, and he had to collect the insurance through Bowen's brother, Frank, who was arrested at Centralia.

STOLEN BILLS ARE FOUND IN ALLEY TODAY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (AP)—The mutilated currency stolen by thugs after yesterday in the Union station was discovered by police today in an up-town alley.

The three registered mail pouches in which the worthless pieces of money were being shipped from the federal reserve bank in New York to the treasury here were not located.

The bills, insurance papers and the three or four robbers believed involved in the crime, hoping to connect the abandoned money and the shells.

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AGRICULTURE BILL AGAIN IN COMMITTEE

Measure Re-Refered to Committee on Agriculture For Amendment

OLD-AGE PENSION BILL IS DEFEATED

Eckley and Allen For Measure—Kiddle, Eberhard Vote Differently on Train Measure.

SALEM, Feb. 13 (AP)—Forenoon sessions of the legislature may be cut out during the remainder of the present legislative period, if a concurrent resolution introduced today by Senator J. E. Bennett is adopted by both houses. Instead the time would be given to committee meetings.

April 21 of each year would be designated as "muster day" and set apart as a legal holiday by a concurrent resolution introduced by Senators J. H. Upton and Joel C. Booth. It would be in honor of Spanish War veterans.

The basic sciences bill, which is causing much controversy in the legislature between the medical doctors and the druggists' healing professions was set as a special order of business in the senate for 11 o'clock next Monday.

Agriculture Bill Withdrawn
Another highly controversial measure, the bill to create a state department of agriculture, was today withdrawn from the ways and means committee and re-referred to the committee on agriculture, the senate for amendment. It will then again be turned over to the ways and means committee.

Music was the main topic of discussion in the senate at this session debate resulted in defeat for senate bill 101, introduced by Senators Fisher, Hall, Burke and Woodard and Representatives Keasey, McCallister, Anderson and Norton, authorizing incorporated cities and towns to levy a 2-mill tax for the maintenance of parks. The bill was the first killed in the senate at this session other than by indefinite postponement. The vote was 14 to 15.

Senator Eberhard attacked the measure as did one or two other members of the senate.

The vote was: For—Billingsley, Booth, Dunne, Plafner, Francovich, Hill, Kiddle, Nelson, Miller, Moore, Stoppel, and Wozniak. Against—Bailey, Bennett, Brown, Burke, Carsner, Crawford, Dunn, Ed-ward, Johnson, Jones, Kuck, Schulmerich, Spaulding, Strayer, Wheeler, Absent—Eddy.

The house put over consideration of the measure providing for payment of a portion of insurance fees to a fireman's fund, until the afternoon session. The act affects Multnomah county only. In addition seven bills were withdrawn, including the provision of abolishing the county judge on the board of commissioners. Three others were indefinitely postponed.

The measure introduced by Representative Eberhard.

CONGRESSMAN INDICTED BY GRAND JURY

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 13 (AP)—Harry E. Rowbottom, Republican representative in congress from the first Indiana district, was indicted today by a federal grand jury on charges of accepting bribes for using his influence to obtain postoffice appointments for persons in his district.

The indictment listed several counts against the congressman, whose home is at Evansville, Ind. Rowbottom, a Republican, was arrested a few weeks ago on an affidavit specific charging the acceptance of 750 dollars commencing the appointment of a rural letter carrier.

Bowles Trial To Be At Hillsboro

PORTLAND, Feb. 13 (AP)—Definite and positive assurance was had today that the Bowles murder case will be held in Hillsboro.

An announcement from the district attorney's office said the state will not seek a change of venue from Washington county, reports of which had been in general circulation. The case was brought to Hillsboro on a defense motion for a change of venue.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Feb. 13 (AP)—General selling broke grain prices abruptly today, and rallies failed to last. Heavy reports of wheat from the southern hemisphere and from Russia acted as a weight on values, and so too did Illinois' office and the state will not seek a change of venue from Washington county, reports of which had been in general circulation. The case was brought to Hillsboro on a defense motion for a change of venue.

Wheat closed unsettled 1/2 to 1 1/2 cents down, corn 1/4 to 1/2 cts, oats 1/4 to 1/2 cts lower, and provisions varying from 10 cents decline to 5 cents advance.