

39th Year

THE BANNER-COURIER, OREGON CITY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1922.

Number 36

COUNTY BUDGET MEET FAST AND FURIOUS

Prohibition Enforcement Funds In Hands of County Court

NEW JAIL VOTED FOR

A Total of \$7240 Was Cut Off Estimates and Office of County Club Leader Abolished.

From the drop of the gavel, the County Budget meeting held at Busch's Hall on Friday last, swung or attempted to swing the axe on everything that offered opportunity to cut off taxes. In many instances the performance was far more entertaining than creditable to popular government. Every objector and voter no doubt meant well, but even the intent to serve economy did not always tally with the results and many conservative citizens whose judgment is good and who have progressive views of the best, came away discouraged and disgusted with the hit and miss opposition of an element present which struck at practically everything without reference to needs or merit.

At the first swing of the political axe, five hundred dollars was lopped off the circuit court estimate of \$3000, although it was explained later that this would cause a vacation of two months next summer in the work of the circuit judge as there would be insufficient funds with which to pay witnesses, jury costs and other expenses.

Prohibition Enforcement Fund A resolution introduced by District Attorney Stipp, providing for the withdrawal of the \$1500 estimate contained in the sheriff's budget and put in its place \$2000 into the hands of the county court to be used in the enforcement of the prohibition law, was passed. The motion to cut the salary of the chief deputy in the sheriff's office 20 per cent was lost; while the tax department was relieved of one clerk drawing a salary of \$1020.

Estimates for the offices of clerk, recorder, treasurer, surveyor, coroner, school superintendent and county agent, went through the ordeal unchanged though the latter was the object of vigorous attack and had only a few votes to spare.

Health Matters The estimate of \$20 for health of office and \$1000 for county physician, brought forth protests in favor of Dr. Welsh who took the floor in his own behalf and accused the county judges of making his road as health officer same as provided in the estimates. And the judge "came back" with the statement that the new arrangement considered by the doctor was in the interest of economy; that the doctor had charged at one time 25 or 30 cents a mile for mileage expenses and that the bills for this department had been excessively high. The judge admitted that the court was not aware that the health officer could be released by the court only upon proof of inefficiency. The voters strongly sustained the estimate and this storm cloud gave way to others strewn with more vivid pyrotechnics.

And the crowd did not wait long for more excitement. It came with the motion by Mrs. Mary Caulfield supported by pleas from Mrs. Dye and Rev. H. G. Edgar for an insertion into the budget of the sum of \$2000 for maintenance of a county health nurse. R. E. Church led the opposition with a resolution for provision of \$2000 each for 5 health nurses and was seconded in his efforts to kill the project, by R. G. Nether, R. Schuebel and others. The motion for the \$2000 estimate was defeated.

The estimate for two traffic officers was cut in twain, pay for overtime in the tax department was cut off and the county club leader was given a permanent vacation by the tax cutters, after the first of January, 1922. A. D., although the estimate for the county and state fair which the leader has been of primary importance in developing, was carried unanimously. "Oh consistency, thou art a jewel," was made a solid, solemn exit.

Estimates for insurance, registration and election, eradication of Canada thistles, cattle indemnity, indigent soldiers, widows' pension, prisoners' board, interest on road fund warrants, were allowed with little or no discussion.

New Jail The mention of the estimate for the new jail brought forth the current slogan "cut it out." Judge Campbell at this juncture took the floor and chided the hit and miss swats at the estimates, declaring that such actions as had characterized the day were rendering the county budget meetings a farce. He pleaded for this estimate and his plea was vigorously supported by A. C. Thomas, both declaring the present structure unsafe, unsanitary and a disgrace to the county. The first vote was for a new jail.

W. W. Woodbeck put on the closing number when he attempted to start an investigation of the county health office with a view to determining the values of the morning's statements in regard to overcharges, etc. The persistent, pen-pushed publicity pressure was suddenly left alone to meditate over the day's accomplishment by adjournment.

COUNCIL BEGINS A MORAL CLEANUP

Laws Relating To Poolroom Regulation Are Read and Violations Found General

At the council meeting held in the usual place on Friday afternoon last, attention was called to the fact that the present charter does not provide for the revoking of the proprietor's poolroom license by the council no matter how persistent a violator may be.

It was suggested that an ordinance amending the charter should be passed authorizing the council to at any time revoke the licenses of those who violate the regulations under which their holders operate and the city attorney is preparing such ordinance.

It was brought out at this same meeting that the provision of the charter which requires the applicant for the license to operate a poolroom, to put up a bond in the sum of \$500 which bond must be endorsed by the mayor and city recorder before the license may be granted. No such bond has been required since the mind of man runneth to the contrary. The attitude of the council in this matter is to henceforth see that this provision as well as others regulating in these plans shall be enforced.

Further, it is the purpose of the council, the Banner-Courier is informed, to not only pass an ordinance providing for the revoking of licenses granted to poolroom proprietors, but to require licenses of lunch counters, eating places and rooming houses in order to regulate the same.

The advisability of taking children found loitering or wandering about the streets after reasonable hours at night to the jail or other official quarters and hold them in custody until the parents having been notified of the detention shall come after them was discussed and the proposition met with general favor.

Police officers were given authority to gather in any person or persons found wandering about the streets or alleys without any show of purpose.

The report on work done by the contractor on sixth street was accepted and plans laid for a general moral clean up as well as civic improvement.

Mrs. Justina Moehnke Dies New Years Morning

At the family home 792 East Seventh street, north, Portland, Oregon, Mrs. Justina Moehnke died at 1:30 o'clock New Year's morning, and just 12 hours later her husband, Mr. Chas. Moehnke passed away. Mr. Moehnke was 81 years of age and his wife was 78. Mr. and Mrs. Moehnke were old residents of Clackamas county, having lived here for 40 years. Mr. Moehnke was at one time postmaster of the Moehnke postoffice and has served as county commissioner. For several years he has operated a saw-mill on the west side of the Willamette river near Oregon City. But owing to ill health he retired and resided in Portland from then on. Their death occurred on the 29th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Moehnke have been good citizens of Clackamas county and have done a great deal toward promoting the interests of the county and were well respected by all who knew them. The following children are left: Mrs. L. A. LaBeau and Mrs. A. V. Dicky of Seattle; Mrs. E. A. Franz, of Portland and John and August Moehnke of Willamette, Oregon. The funeral services were held from the chapel of the East Side Funeral directors at Portland at 2 P. M. Wednesday, January 4, and was largely attended as Mr. and Mrs. Moehnke had at least 150 relatives in Clackamas county besides a host of friends.

Here's a Hard Jolt For the Newspapers

And City Judge Kelly is author of the mild suggestion that if the newspapers would jump onto the merchant for selling tobacco to minors instead of jumping on to the council for not enforcing the laws it would do more good.

And here, the Banner-Courier stops to wipe away its tears. Such tender solicitation for the council which has awakened to its sense of duty and is cleaning up the civic sewage of Oregon City with a dispatch that does it and the city credit, would bring tears of anguish to the eyes of an ancient mummy.

Farm Bureau Plans Series of Meetings

The Clackamas County Farm Bureau has arranged for a series of six meetings covering the county during the last three days of January and the first three of February.

The schedule is: Beaver Creek, Monday, Jan. 30; Boring, Tuesday, Jan. 31; Molalla, Wednesday, Feb. 1; Clackamas, Thursday, Feb. 2; Canby, Friday, Feb. 3; Oswego, Saturday, Feb. 4.

All these meetings will begin at 10 o'clock in the forenoon and continue throughout the day. Basket lunch will be served at noon.

George S. Mansfield president of the state organization and Co. William B. Aird, secretary, will be present and take part in the discussions. Moving pictures—"The Rural Drama" Spring Valley Films—by the American Farm Bureau will be shown at all the meetings.

This is a campaign for new members and among topics of discussion will be the accomplishments, purposes and plans of the Bureau.

All farmers, farmers' organizations and others interested in farm problems and difficulties are urged to be present.

ABBREVIATED TAXES NEW YEAR GREETING

Even The Kiddies Rejoice Over Ice Cold Sodas Minus "Penny Extra"

\$500,000,000 CUT

Big Reductions Made by Government Include Relief From Insurance and Railroad Exactions.

With the departure of the new year 1922, there was lopped off from the people, tax exactions to the amount of nearly a half billion dollars. The articles dropped from the tax list numbers fifty-seven. On some of these articles the revenue taxes are eliminated entirely and upon others it is more or less reduced.

Nearly three hundred millions of the total is eliminated from transportation taxes and includes 8 per cent on oil pipe lines, three per cent on freight charges, five per cent on express and eight per cent on railroad and Pullman car tickets. Last year the enormous sum of \$138,000,000 was paid by those transporting freight and \$97,000,000 by passengers on the railroad trains. The largest single tax item was that paid on freight. The 50 per cent additional tax on Pullman tickets remains, however, and goes not to Uncle Samuel, but to the railroad owners.

Taxes for revenue on life, marine, fire, burglary and casualty insurance is no more.

The ten per cent tax on baseball bats, tennis and gold goods, and other athletic materials has gone glimmering; so has the tax on ice cream sodas and other soft drinks sold at fountains and parlors, much to the delight of "Young America."

The five per cent tax on pianos and other musical instruments; the 5 per cent on electric fans and thermos bottles has been banished.

Perfumes, cosmetics, furs, patent medicines can not be purchased retail without the extra revenue requirement. Even the tax on parcels post is no longer a reality.

The taxes on articles above certain values have been either reduced or eliminated, and include men's and women's hats, caps and bonnets; shoes stockings and socks; men's shirts and ties.

No tax will be paid on umbrellas and parasols, knit-goods and underwear.

Carpets, rugs, suitcases, purses, handbags, lamps, shades and fans are allowed reductions based on excess of values.

On beer and other fountain drinks and on candy, the manufacturer still pays a reduced revenue tax. No new revenue tax has been placed on any article of commerce.

M. J. Lee Will Try Again For State Legislature

M. J. Lee, who was a candidate for the Republican nomination for the state legislature at the 1920 primaries, will try again at the county primary election. Mr. Lee was unable to complete the 1920 campaign owing to being quarantined for smallpox.

Regular Council Meet Is Short, Sweet

At a meeting of the City Fathers last night there was an air of staunch determination. A meeting with poolroom proprietors during the afternoon in which discussion of present law enforcement conditions was held, had prepared the way for a meeting devoid of complaints, protests or other excitement which were awaited by a crowd of citizens who crowded the council room to the door.

All the councilmen were present except Dr. Mount as were also the recorder, attorney, chief of police and street superintendent.

The usual routine of bills was disposed of; the poolroom proprietors were directed by the mayor to publish their applications according to law and then to come to the council for their licenses as provided by the charter. This new procedure was taken in good spirit and the results are expected to clarify the situation greatly and will be a credit to all concerned.

The chief of police was instructed to work jail prisoners on the streets—a splendid move. Fisher who was fined \$28.00 in justice court, for overloading the truck used by him for the city was refunded this amount by unanimous vote.

Philip Hammond Will Be Legislative Candidate

Philip Hammond, who served as a member of the last state legislature, will be a candidate for the Republican nomination to succeed himself at the coming primary election.

Married in Salem

Robert H. Beatie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Beatie of Beaver Creek and Miss Alta Burke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Burke of Thirteenth street, were married in Salem Sunday, Rev. W. F. Milhien, formerly pastor of the Baptist church of Oregon City, officiating.

RATES FOR AUTO CAMPS TO BE FIXED

Free Auto Camps Have Become Big Problem for Municipalities To Handle.

At the Pacific Rocky Mountain Northwestern Tourist Camp conference it is expected that definite plans will be laid for the operation of automobile camp grounds in the various cities throughout the Northwest. This conference will be held in Spokane on this week, beginning Saturday. All cities including Oregon City are interested in this subject and will for the most part, send representatives to this conference.

The general feeling is that these grounds should be self supporting; that they are of as great value to the travelers as to the municipalities to which they belong; and that once put in condition, both attractive and convenient for their patrons, they should cease to be a burden on the taxpayer.

Oregon City has one of the best appointed, most attractive and convenient parks on the coast. It is fitted up with the best of conveniences and has been thus far maintained for the most part by private subscriptions.

The city will raise by taxation this year \$600 toward the expenses of the park, which requires an attendant continually during the auto season. The total cost for this year is estimated at approximately \$2000, leaving \$1200 to be raised by the committee in charge.

Just how this cost will be met has not yet been decided.

It is the consensus of opinion heard in the council and city that some charge should be made for support of this civic commodity.

The Red Cross Works Wonders in China

Important as was the presentation of \$50 million of excellent highway to the government of China by the American Red Cross at the conclusion of its famous relief operations, of equal, if not greater importance, is the effect of the accomplishment upon the Chinese people themselves.

"The work of the American Red Cross has taught the Chinese people in the famine provinces that famines are largely preventable. It taught them that they can do for themselves that which is necessary to prevent a recurrence of the disasters that are as old as China itself. A good system of transportation is the most effective barrier that can be erected against famine in China and the greatest work of the Red Cross in China was in convincing the Chinese that such a barrier could be erected.

"Once shown, the Chinese are quick to grasp new ideas and self-help is somewhat of a new idea. When the operations of the Red Cross closed, many Chinese, both government officials and leaders in communities generally, saw ways of extending highway construction and irrigation facilities to safeguard them in the future.

"Perhaps this is demonstrated nowhere better than in the province of Chihli, where the American Red Cross dug 3562 wells for the irrigation of the land. These wells were dug as a means of reclaiming for agricultural purposes vast sandy areas along an old bed of the Yellow river. Inspired by the success of the American project, the Chinese themselves became active and today individual land holders have dug wells probably equal in number to those dug by the Red Cross organization."

Judge Noble's Booze Antidote A "Corker"

In the local justice court on Friday of last week there were a couple of jolts given the moonshine traffic which should cause violators, would-be violators and booze and dope vendors in general, to sit up and take notice of what is going on in those parts of the universe where officials including sheriffs and judges have the nerve to do their duty.

Two brothers, R. E. and W. A. Merrick living on the old Fred Worum's place about three miles out from Oregon City near the Molalla road, were brought into Oregon City by Deputies Hughes and Long of the sheriff's force, with moonshine paraphernalia and a small quantity of real "oozy woozy," which had been manufactured therein.

After a few hours' reflection in the commodious parlors of hotel de Wilson, A. E. Merritt, charged with possessing intoxicating liquors unlawfully, was sentenced by Judge Noble to pay a fine and costs totaling \$109.70 and to serve 30 days in jail. In default of the fine, 50 days' additional time is required.

W. A. Merritt for the same offense as above was fined \$250 and costs totaling \$259.70 and given 60 days in jail. In default of the fine 125 days additional in the county bastille was imposed.

An Appreciation

Having attended the farmers' meeting at Oregon City December 3 on poultry day, I wish to express my appreciation of Prof. Crosby's talk. Anyone there was amply repaid for the time spent at the meeting. Prof. Crosby has surely got the poultry man's troubles down fine.

The college is doing a great work for the poultry people by sending out such able men as Prof. Crosby. JOHN HUGHES.

Highest prices paid for Veal-Midget Market.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT WOULD LOWER TAXES

Student Thinks This Would Be Oregon's Remedy For Unrest

PROPOSAL NOT NEW

Would Have Each County Make Its Own Laws and Be Independent of State Legislature.

He said it was not himself that needed advertising, but the idea, and he would like us to help push that along.

So we will simply state the man is a student of economics; a man who has been successful in business, and who is keenly interested in making Oregon prosperous.

His idea isn't new, it's application is.

The Banner-Courier has before proposed it as a means of reducing government and taxation. And it wasn't original with this paper.

The man's proposal was county optional government, each county having a government unto itself on practically the same system that each state governs itself.

He thought if such an option law could be passed, each county could have just as much or just as little government and taxation as it wanted and there would be more direct responsibility and less unrest and kicking.

We think so, too.

Under such a law the state would only have the jurisdiction over counties that the national government has over states. There would be state laws governing all counties, and there would be a general state tax, but in the matter of government, officials, salaries, etc., each county could run its own business and pay its own bills.

If such a law could be passed through, there wouldn't be a dozen peace officers chasing each other up and down the state.

There wouldn't be a drove of county and state fish and game wardens regular and special, and extra getting in each other's way.

There wouldn't be any army of traffic officers, county, state, special, hanging around to catch county violators.

There would be a thinning out of county, state and federal prohibition officials, investigators, special investigators, law and order sleuths, and so on.

There is altogether too much government, too much duplication, too many commissions, too many investigating junkies, too much state expense.

If every county could run itself a world of these state officials and mandatory laws could be shaken off.

But it will take far more than this newspaper boost to bring about such a reform—it will take organizations in more than half the counties all pledged to send men to the legislature to make such a law.

Some day some such movement will come. Increasing taxation will force it.

ATTEMPT TO EMPLOY CLUB LEADER MADE

Clackamas County Farm Bureau Executives Appeal to The County Court

On Wednesday of this week, the members of the Clackamas County Farm Bureau executive committee headed by H. C. Seymour, state club leader connected with the Oregon Agricultural College, presented arguments for the retention of a county club leader for the county.

The sentiment of the Bureau, it is said, is for the club leader and disappointment over the cutting out of the estimate for this office at the budget meeting is general.

It was pointed out that the training of boys and girls in stock raising, poultry production and general agriculture is of first importance and that the work is growing in value and popularity throughout the state and that it is essential to the success of the various agricultural fairs held in this and other counties.

The committee consisting of O. R. Daugherty, president of the Bureau; Mrs. Gaffney secretary; Mrs. Hughes, and Messrs. Randall, Clark, Kanne, and H. N. Smith urged reconsideration of the action of the budget meeting but received little encouragement from the court and commissioners who felt that they ought not to this oppose the taxpayers in action taken in the annual budget meeting though these officials and the budget committee had personally favored the employment of the club leader and had provided for the same by a budget estimate of \$1800.

It was reported that in some other counties of Oregon, the county court has retained the club leader though the budget meeting had failed to provide for the cost.

Wells Changed Plea; Gets Year in Pen

Charles Wells will do a year in Salem. After he had got out of a tight hole, heumped back in.

Wells was indicted for non-support of his family, but his wife pleaded for his release and he was paroled. The next day she asked the officers to arrest him again, claiming that he had beaten her.

He was again jailed and to occupy his time he attempted to break jail. Someone had slipped him a hack saw and he had the hinges of the main door to the corridor sawed nearly through when it was discovered.

Then Charlie thought things were stacking up pretty hard against him and he changed his plea to guilty and confessed to the attempted jail delivery. Judge Campbell sentenced him to the penitentiary for one year.

Farmers' Week at the O. A. C. Full of "Pep"

With the entire facilities of the Oregon Agricultural College placed at their advantage several hundred persons interested in progress and improvement studied and discussed problems pertaining to the farm and home life.

There were special conferences at which were discussed such topics as dairying, soil treatments, irrigation, potato raising, grain grading, marketing and many others.

Various organizations and associations interested in different phases of agriculture and kindred subjects held meetings. Among them, were the Drainage Association; the Western Nut Growers' Association; and the County Fair Secretaries' Association.

One of the most valuable and popular features of the week was the lecture on poultry production.

Among the specialists of prominence who took part in presenting the program were Dean Robert Stewart, soil specialist of Idaho, A. G. Lunn, professor of poultry husbandry, and Dr. Hector MacPherson of the Bureau of Markets of the O. A. C.

Growers of Canby Vicinity to Meet

At 1:30 in the afternoon on Saturday of this week, the fruit and brocoli growers of Canby, Barlow and vicinity will meet in the Canby city hall with representatives of the Oregon Growers' Association to decide whether there is sufficient acreage to justify membership in the Association. Does the attitude of the local growers warrant entering the association is another thing to be decided at the meeting.

If there is sufficient interest and cooperative desire shown at this meeting, the question of putting in a receiving and barreling station or equipment for drying berries will be discussed and perhaps settled wholly or in part.

Barlow Enjoys School Program The program given by the Barlow school on Friday night recently, was a very entertaining and enjoyable affair. The school now has a new basketball team which furnishes the incentive for the indoor games played now in the gymnasium.

A home-talent play is among the possibilities of the near future.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHERIFF INDICTED

Charges Brought by C. E. Moulton, Plumber, Acted On by Grand Jury

TRIAL SET FOR JAN. 11

Wilson Denies Charges and Declares Frame-up To Discredit Official Record

After weeks of rumor to the effect that the office of W. J. Wilson, now serving his third term as sheriff of Clackamas county has been under investigation on charges in connection with enforcement of the laws against booze, the grand jury has returned an indictment of larceny by bailie.

This verdict is the outgrowth of a charge by C. E. Moulton, a Portland plumber, dating back to March, 4, 1920. It appears that a car stolen from Moulton was found by H. E. Meads then deputy sheriff under Wilson, near Oswego and was brought by him to Oregon City in his official capacity. It is specifically charged that while in the custody of the sheriff, Wilson "unlawfully and feloniously embezzled and converted to his use" from said car personal property belonging to Moulton: 1 pipe vise, 1 ratchet die stock, 2 pipe cutters, 1 ratchet brace, 1 pair tin snips, 1 solder torch, 1 auto jack, 1 pump, 2 pipe wrenches, 1 cold chisel and roll of auto tools which it is claimed were missing when the car was returned to its owner.

To the charge the sheriff declares there is nothing; that he knows nothing of the tools and that the case is the outgrowth of efforts by certain "saw heads" and "aspiring politicians" who want to discredit him. The witnesses to the complaint made by C. E. Wilson are H. E. Meads, W. B. Cook and the complainant.

The formalities of arrest and bond have been waived and the case set for the 11th of this month.

But these accusations are not all that disturbs the serenity and good will of the sheriff's office. From the middle of November to last session of the grand jury the office has been under investigation by the Northwestern Law and Order League headed by F. W. Snyder, and deputies. These investigations were directed toward the work of the sheriff and his deputies in connection with enforcement of the prohibition law. The investigations it is understood were encouraged by members of the local W. C. T. U. owing to current reports of high hazard discriminative booze law enforcement and other complaints incident to the work of dealing with bootleg and moonshine cases.

A resume of bills charged to Clackamas county and Ok'd by the district attorney shows for investigations into the sheriff's office in the following cases: Matt Woodrich and son, \$82.57; W. E. Mumpower and son, \$107.50; Carl and M. M. Mumpower, \$75.90; F. T. Davis, \$9.50; Henry Daly, \$7.85; Auto hire including trips to Toledo and for affidavits and evidence and labor lump sum, \$263.28. Of this bill L. Stipp, district attorney Ok'd items of \$46.20, \$45.00 and \$15.00, and stated in his report on these bills that this includes one trip by auto, in an attempt to get witness Moulton and which failed beyond Corvallis on account of road being blocked. As to the trips for affidavits and evidence these were not done at his request and knowing nothing of this expense did not allow these items.

In reply to the current report that the District Attorney's office is persecuting the sheriff, Stipp declares that his office is not responsible for the work of the Northwestern Law and Order League, and that he endorses the bills for the investigations upon the basis of the work having been done and should be paid for. He further emphasizes his intention to do everything possible to enforce the prohibition and other laws without reference to who may be involved.

Wilson, criticized for not working with the Law and Order League declares that he has been willing to work with any organization whose deputies were reputable but that he refused to work with Snyder's deputies on the ground that they were not dependable and cites the fact that said deputies have been convicted of having been drunk and having received bribes while on duty for the League. Snyder, too, has been relieved of his commission as head of the organization for having employed this outfit of deputies. On the other hand current report has it that the sheriff is of a leaous disposition, difficult to work with through the district attorney's office and that his selection of field deputy is not of the best.

Meanwhile "Billy" continues to bring in bootleggers, stills and moonshine; the district attorney prosecutes offenders and aids in the local clean-up while the public "discusses" "cusses" and "wonders" where it will all end.

Wilson has retained G. B. Dimick and C. L. Hedges as his attorneys and declares that he will come through the trial clear and vindicated.