

FEDERAL TAX LEVY  
HITS AT LUXURIESTen Per Cent Assessment on  
Gross Sales of Manufac-  
turers Nation's Plan.

## TOBACCO RATE MAY DOUBLE

Data Before Committee Show That  
Cigar Consumption Is Decreasing,  
While Cigarette Sales  
Are Mounting.

WASHINGTON, July 30.—A 10 per cent tax on gross sales of manufacturers, producers and importers of automobiles, piano-players, graphophones, sporting goods, cosmetics, patent medicines, cameras and similar articles, was tentatively agreed upon today by the House ways and means committee.

The present excise tax on most of these articles ranges around 3 per cent. Motor-trucks will be taxed only half the increased rate, on the ground that they are for business purposes.

Some of the committee voted against the motor-truck tax and the committee finally compromised on 5 per cent on gross sales on original transactions. There was no effort to put a tax on gasoline.

## Tobacco Tax May Double.

The Treasury Department has recommended doubling the present rates on tobacco.

The committee wants more revenue than this would yield and will decide the increase later. Data laid before the committee showed that consumption of cigars in this country is decreasing, while cigarette consumption is mounting rapidly.

Chairman Kitchin said tonight: "The committee also had under consideration a tax on admission to theaters, operas, moving picture shows, etc. The committee favored doubling the tax on admissions and club dues and also to impose a one-cent tax on all admissions where the maximum charge does not exceed seven cents. Under existing law, all moving picture shows, theaters and other amusements whose maximum charge does not exceed five cents are exempt from the tax."

The committee proposes tomorrow to take up the luxury tax suggestions of the Treasury Department.

## Luxury Taxes Before Body.

Today's committee action, it was said, does not commit the committee to a general gross sales or consumption tax, although that may be resorted to at the last moment if the revenue yield from all other sources is not sufficient. It has been estimated that a gross sales tax on all articles and on transactions affecting all articles would produce up to \$2,000,000,000 if only a 2 per cent rate was adopted.

The committee cut the Treasury suggestions in half, so far as rates are concerned, on most of the articles affected by today's tentative agreement on a 10 per cent tax on original sales of articles included in the existing excise tax class.

## Amusements Are Affected.

Under the present law, the tax on automobiles, trucks, piano-players, graphophones, phonographs, talking machines and records, sporting goods and cameras, sold by the manufacturer or producer or importer, is 3 per cent of sale price; on patent medicines, proprietary medicines, toilet soaps and waters, hair dyes and tooth pastes, and chewing gum, 2 per cent; club dues, 10 per cent, and admissions to amusements, 1 cent per 10 cents or less paid, and in case of permanent or leased use of opera-houses or other amusement seats and boxes, 10 per cent of sale price.

## TWO PLATOON IS SOUGHT

Firemen's Union Submits Ordinance  
to City Council.

An ordinance providing for a two-platoon system in the Portland Fire Bureau has been submitted to the City Council by the City Firemen's Union, No. 42, International Association of Fire Fighters, for adoption.

In a separate communication, officials of the union declare that a two-platoon system is necessary for preservation of the fire department, and urge the Council to adopt the ordinance providing two shifts prior to September 1. Recently a petition was presented to the Council asking that a committee be appointed to investigate the need of a two-platoon system. No action yet has been taken on this petition.

## "HERO" IS MERELY POSEUR

Canadian Asserting Himself War  
Veteran Is Deported.

Thomas L. Blake, who a few weeks ago represented himself as a Canadian sergeant wounded in 40 times by the Germans, will leave for Vancouver, B. C., today under the surveillance of Officer H. C. Bates and Dr. Irvine, of the health department. Blake's deportation was authorized in communications received from Ottawa several days ago.

The young Canadian was exposed after being recognized as a camp hanger-on by Canadian army men here. Blake claimed to have lost an arm in the fighting over there. He is said to have secured funds by this means. Much publicity was given him before his arrest.

## Druggist Taken at Newport.

NEWPORT, Or., July 30.—(Special.)—The state police tonight arrested William Armitage, a local druggist, and a chauffeur, Andre, for having liquor in their possession. The arrests were made, it is claimed, while a transfer of liquor was being made between the parties accused. They were released on \$200 bail pending a preliminary hearing.



## MOVING PICTURE NEWS



Mary Pickford in "How Could You Jean?" at Peoples.

## TODAY'S FILM FEATURES.

Liberty—Norma Talmadge, "The Safety Curtain."  
Sunset—Bill Hart in "Truthful Tulliver," Charlie Chaplin, "His Night Out."  
Star—True Boardman, "The Doctor and the Woman."  
Columbia—Marguerite Clark, "Uncle Tom's Cabin."  
Peoples—Mary Pickford, "How Could You Jean?"  
Majestic—Arnold Daly, "My Own United States."  
Globe—Blanche Sweet, "Unprotected."  
Circle—Corinne Griffith, "The Menace."

## TWO pictures of a widely different

variety are the attraction at the Sunset Theater. A comedy features Charlie Chaplin in "His Night Out." Chaplin comedies are always entertaining and this one is no exception to the rule.

Bill Hart is starred in "Truthful Tulliver." Perhaps no picture in which Hart has ever appeared offers him greater opportunity for emotional powers than does "Truthful Tulliver." A gripping and tragic love story that ends happily, a tremendous battle for morality that he fights with the newspapers he has founded, stirring gun fights and matchless riding all combine to give him a role fit for his heroic character.

Some good, thrilling scenes are in the picture and some picturesque scenes of the early mining days are also registered.

## New War Play Being Filmed.

By obtaining special permission from the United States Government to photograph scenes in the Army and Navy building and Senate building at Washington, Julius Steger, who is directing Marion Davies' second Select picture, "The Burden of Proof," to follow "Cecilia of the Pink Roses," accomplished the hitherto impossible since this country's entrance into the world war. During the work in Washington Mr. Steger was also fortunate in obtaining a new view of the National Capitol from the windows of the Senate building. This is the first time the Capitol building has been photographed from this angle, and picture patrons throughout the country will enjoy a new view of the nation's principal building.

Work has now been completed on the Washington scenes for Miss Davies' new picture, and the picture company will go to Newport next week for the exterior scenes, which take place in that city. Following the Newport work the company will return to the Norma Talmadge studio on East Forty-eighth street, where the film will be finished.

The "Burden of Proof" is a 100 per cent live story of love and intrigue, the action of which takes place mostly in Newport and Washington. In the staging and direction of the most important scenes, Mr. Steger has been assisted by Fred Hearn, who also has a prominent part in the photoplay. While not entirely a war play, there is a flavor of the Titanic struggle in the thread of the story.

The date of release of Miss Davies' second Select picture has not been announced, but it is stated that "The Burden of Proof" will follow "Cecilia of the Pink Roses."

## Alice Brady Is Sponsor.

Alice Brady, the famous screen star whose picture, "The White Pool," has just been released, has been made sponsor for a Government warship at the request of the crew on the submarine chaser 12. There is a feeling of pride among the men on the No. 13 that Miss Brady has consented to become their patroness, and she has already promised to keep them well supplied with "smokes" and other delicacies relished by men on a man-o-war. In addition to presenting them with a handsomely-framed portrait of herself.

Miss Brady has taken a deep interest in fighting men and has appeared at a number of entertainments in the training camps. Last Tuesday night she took part in the entertainment for wounded men from the front on Ellis Island. Miss Brady is an accomplished singer and entertainer and before her debut in the silent drama was a featured principal on the legitimate stage.

As Miss Brady made a trip from Boston, where she led the ball at the convention of the National Association of the Motion Picture Industry, to New York to take part in the exercises on Ellis Island, she has been unable to enjoy a much-needed rest. Beginning Wednesday she commenced a systematic programme for replenishing her wardrobe for the Select production on which she will go to work during the current week.

## Screen Gossip.

According to news notes emanating from Goldwyn's publicity department, Geraldine Farrar never acts before the camera at the Goldwyn studios except to the accompaniment of music. The opera star's emotional abilities are more responsive under the spell of melody. For this reason her favorite cellist has been engaged, and the musician is as constant in his attendance to his part of the production work as the star herself. He plays what he chooses, Miss Farrar having no stipulations in this regard. Massenet's "Elegie" is a favorite, however, with Saint-Saens' "Le Cygne" and Nivini's "Mighty Lak a Rose."

Accompanied by her mother, Violet Meresereau, Universal's youngest star, returned to New York last night from Boston, where she attended the exhibitors' ball on Friday night. After an absence of several months from the screen, Miss Meresereau will resume work during the coming week at Universal's studio in Coytesville, N. J.

Conway Tearle, who is playing opposite Anita Stewart in the production which will mark her return to the screen after an absence of several years, has bought an old estate at

Chappaqua. Mr. Tearle's life-long ambition has been to run a model farm, and he is giving every spare moment to improving his new property.

Lawrence Grant will appear at William Fox's Audubon Theater for the first half of this week with his own company in a vaudeville sketch entitled "Efficiency." This personal engagement will be in competition with himself on the screen, as "To Hell With the Kaiser," the Screen Classics release in which he is featured as the Kaiser, is the photo-dramatic attraction of the same programme.

A recent visitor to the Thomas H. Ince Studios was Corporal De Varilla, who pulled the lanyard of the French 75 that sent America's first shot of the war screaming into German territory. De Varilla, who is back from France on a Government mission, belongs to C Battery, Sixth United States Field Artillery and is a modest lad for one upon whom such a singular honor as firing the first shot for liberty was conferred. "Gee, I'll bet the old bell in Philadelphia would have further cracked her sides with joy had she been able to hear that shot shriek its way toward Hunsdom," he said to Mr. Ince, his eyes sparkling with boyish enthusiasm.

Clara Kimball Young seems to be having some difficulty in establishing a studio in Pasadena. The townfolk are all excited about the affair, and at the present time they seem divided in their opinions upon approximately a fifty-fifty basis. The Rev. W. C. Loomis, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is "agin' it" and even went so far as to devote a sermon to the subject. Among other things, the minister said the motion picture business was a mushroom industry. Several real estate men seem to believe the establishment of a studio will affect land values. On the other hand, the merchants of the town are for the studio, while the younger set will be just too disappointed for anything if Clara is not permitted to build a studio in their town.

Herbert Rawlinson, who has been signed by J. Stuart Blackton for "The Common Cause," the propaganda picture which the Commodore is producing under the auspices of the British Canadian Recruiting Mission, was yesterday elected a member of the Lamb Club, and is now a full-fledged lambkin. Mr. Rawlinson has just completed engagement opposite Geraldine Farrar in her first Goldwyn picture and will begin work under Commodore Blackton's supervision on Wednesday.

He and Sylvia Brainerd are to be the featured members of the all-star cast announced for "The Common Cause." Being famous often proves a great handicap. At least it has in the case of Mary Pickford, so far as rest and quiet is concerned. It is almost impossible for the Artcraft star to be being identified, no matter where she seeks a vacation, and at present, after a long, hard season and much time devoted to war work, the little favorite is much in need of a complete rest. At present she is with her mother and sister at their bungalow in Santa Monica, making the most of her spare time before deciding just what her future plans shall be, her contract with the Famous Players-Lasky having recently expired.

Betty Blythe says she can't never look at a fly again without laughing. It all came about during the taking of a scene recently in which Betty was supposed to be breathing her last and the rest of the players were looking on. Just as Betty was dying in the most appealing style along came a fly and proceeded to dance a Highland fling on her face. Amidst the laughter of the onlookers and to the intense disgust of the vampire a perfectly good scene was spoiled and had to be retaken. To say nothing of many good feet of film wasted. Betty says that the next time she takes a death scene she will insist on being entirely surrounded with Tanglefoot.

A five-wheeled velocipede with the driving wheel in the center is a novelty for children.

MARY ROBERTS RINEHART'S  
Famous Novel

"X"

Picturized by Lois Weber under the title,  
"The Doctor and the Woman."NOW  
PLAYING STAR

## RAILROAD OFFICES HERE

J. D. FARRELL OPENS HEADQUARTERS  
IN GASCO BUILDING.

Union Pacific System, With 35 Subsidiary Corporations, to Be Directed From Portland.

During the remaining period of Federal control of railways Portland will be headquarters of the corporate interests of the Union Pacific system, together with 35 subsidiary and associate corporations, among them the Oregon Short Line Railroad and the O-W. R. &amp; N. Company. Announcement by J. D. Farrell, who is president of the auxiliary corporations and of the railway units of the parent system.

Offices of President Farrell and his associates in supervision of the system's corporate interests will be opened on the sixth floor of the Gasco building. Announcements of officials under President Farrell include those of Louis A. Farquhar, now assistant auditor of the O-W. R. &amp; N. Company, who is to be accountant, and C. W. Miller, now chief clerk in the auditor's office, who is to be assistant treasurer in the new offices.

The numerous subsidiary and associate corporations, embraced in a field from the Missouri River to the Pacific Coast, over which President Farrell will have supervision, include coal, land and water companies and various short-line railways which have not passed under Government control.

## CONCERTS ADD INTEREST

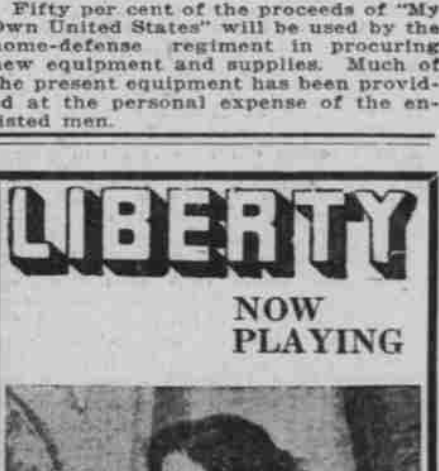
Bands Assist Patriotic Production,  
"My Own United States."

Evening concerts by the Multnomah Guard band, played before the Majestic Theater, have added largely to the wide public interest in the splendidly patriotic screen production, "My Own United States," which is showing there this

## LIBERTY

NOW  
PLAYING

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far north country.

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