

The Morning Oregonian

REDUCERS FAVOR STATE INCOME TAX

Bitter Fight Waged All Day Over Indorsement.

LEVY-CUTTING IS IGNORED

No Provision for Lower Taxes Is Considered Even.

SESSION IS IN CONFUSION

Several Try to Speak at Once and Parliamentary Practices Are Thrown to the Winds.

Indorsement of a state income tax was the single accomplishment of the tax reduction league convention at its meeting in the central library yesterday. When the convention resumed at 9 o'clock this morning, however, the legislative and reduction committees, who were expected to have something interesting to report.

Not without opposition was the principle of an income tax carried and it precipitated a debate which waded back and forth all afternoon while parliamentary procedure was thrown to the winds. The final vote stood 67 for the income tax and 29 against, but when the vote was taken scores of delegates had left the hall.

Effort to Sidetrack Falls.

Before even the committee on order of business reported, C. E. Spence, master of the state senate, introduced a resolution that the tax reduction league approve the income tax principle and appoint a committee of three to co-operate with the legislative committee of the senate in preparing such a measure to be introduced in November. For hours the income tax was battled over and it was shut out by opponents, but each time a drive was made to sidetrack the measure, its friends rallied and kept it alive.

F. H. D'Arcy charged that the purpose for which the convention had been called was being subordinated and, in fact, that no attention was being directed to the main subject for which the delegates were assembled—tax reduction. Judge D'Arcy advised that the state senate could go ahead and handle the income tax as it saw fit while the convention should attend to its sole purpose, which is for reduction of taxes. In conclusion he reminded the convention that the delegates were here to reduce taxes and not to raise more, as would be the mission of an income tax.

Tax Reduction Ignored.

This suggestion was unheeded. Not a single proposal for tax reduction "got to first base" at yesterday's session. The closest approach was when a dozen or more resolutions were read during a ten-minute interval before the noon recess and nothing happened to these resolutions, for there wasn't even a resolution committee to which they could be referred. However, the suggestions for reductions and economies will probably be effected in the reports of the legislative and reduction committees this morning.

Injection of the income tax resolution caused a rent in the convention and created a feeling of dissatisfaction, breaking up the unity of purpose with which delegates had originally come to Portland. It was contended by opponents of the income tax that this plan was foreign to the convention. In the hours which followed about every argument for and against an income tax was aired, freely and fluently, and with, on occasions, three or four speakers on the floor simultaneously. Order was maintained with difficulty and now and then speakers indulged in personalities.

Salem Speaker Attacks.

First of the onslaughts on the resolution of Mr. Spence came from E. Hofer of Salem, and the measure was next championed by L. E. Gibson, school superintendent of Hood River. Then George Mansfield of the farm bureau announced he would stand shoulder to shoulder with the master of the state senate and said that Mr. Hofer's interest was along the line of the man who wants to pay no tax. Following this a Grant county delegate informed the convention that "there is a billion dollars' worth of property in Multnomah county which is exempt" and that if all property were assessed at 100 per cent, and paid taxes, no income tax would be necessary.

In mid-afternoon an opponent of the income tax called attention to the fact that the convention was not yet permanently organized. For a while the income tax resolution was sidetracked, but after permanent organization was effected, with J. C. Cooper of McMinnville, chairman, and Thomas Hayes of Portland as secretary, the resolution bobbed up again following a general mix-up on parliamentary practice.

Promises Declared Futile.

Seymour Jones elicited from Mr. Spence the information that the legislative committee of the senate is working on its income tax measure and intends specifying that every dollar from income shall show a dollar reduction from other sources. W. H.

SPRING IS HERALDED BY VERNAL EQUINOX

PHENOMENON IS SCHEDULED FOR ABOUT NOON.

Bend Recognizes Passing of Winter When Mercury Goes to .65, Highest of Year.

Spring is here.

At least it will be here, officially and astronomically, about noon today, when the vernal equinox will be at hand.

The vernal equinox will not affect Portland residents any more than a cancelled postage stamp or an Eskimo blubber party. So far as the effects of the equinox are concerned, today will be the same as yesterday and tomorrow, except to a few scientists and astronomers. The equinox is merely one of the phenomena in the annual business routine of the sun.

However, for those who demand facts and details, the following description of the vernal equinox, culled from the "Notes of the late Noah Webster, widely-known author of one of the best best sellers and at one time of Hartford, Conn., is presented:

"The time when the sun's center, in crossing the equator, coincides with either of the equinoctial points, that is, about March 21 and September 22. The former is called the vernal equinox and the latter the autumnal equinox. The vernal equinox signs, in which the sun appears between the equator and summer solstice, are Aries, Taurus and Gemini. At each equinox, day and night are everywhere of equal length."

BEND, Or., March 20.—(Special.)—Bend recognized the ending of winter today when the mercury rose to 65 degrees, the highest of the year. Flocks of geese, northward bound, heralded the coming of spring.

COURSES TO BE STRICKEN

Directors Will Submit Proposal Embodying Vital Reforms to Electorate for Approval.

The 6.5-mill tax limitation law should be repealed because it "seriously cripples the progress and efficiency of Portland schools," and the attention of the public should be called to this fact.

The electorate will be asked to authorize the sale of \$3,000,000 of serial bonds of the district at the regular school election, June 17, to meet building and equipment needs of the schools.

At each of the regular school elections in 1922, 1923 and 1924 the electorate will be asked to authorize a tax levy of \$1,000,000 for the support, operation and maintenance of schools. Eleven school courses and activities, which cost the district \$184,000 annually, will be eliminated at the end of the present school term closing in June, subject to such modifications as the board deems advisable, and teachers affected by the eliminations will be notified before April 15.

Directors Adopt Programme.

This was the programme adopted by the school board by unanimous vote at a special meeting last night, when the report of the committee on education, embodying the above recommendations, was adopted.

The report of the committee, composed of Director Shull, chairman, and Director Clark, stated that the 6.5-mill tax limitation law handicapped efficiency of the schools because under its provisions "a decrease in assessed valuation means a decrease in income in the face of increasing attendance."

The report points out that assessed valuations in 1920 for 1921 amounted to \$217,519,055, making the possible levy \$2,043,873.85. In 1921 valuations were \$203,523,190 and possible levy \$1,973,550.74. The estimate for the present year is \$298,000,000, making the possible levy \$1,885,000.

Levy Seriously Restricted.

"If the district could have operated under the 6 per cent tax limitation amendment to the constitution," states the report, "it could have levied for 1922 \$204,490 more than it did, and for 1923 \$422,874.40 more than it can, which would have made possible a levy for 1923 of \$2,307,374.40; whereas, under the 6.5-mill tax limitation statute the levy is restricted by \$422,874.40 in assessed value to \$1,885,000."

(Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

SCHOOL TAX LAW REPEAL PROPOSED

Limitation of 6.5 Mills Declared Disastrous.

BOARD TO ASK MILLIONS

Buildings and Equipment Are Needed for Education.

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ALL U. S. SOLDIERS TO LEAVE GERMANY

JULY 1 IS DATE SET IN WAR DEPARTMENT ORDERS.

About 2000 Officers and Men Are Affected—Announced Policy Is Carried Out.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—All American troops will be out of Germany by July 1, under orders issued by Secretary Weeks today by direction of President Harding.

About 2000 officers and men are directly affected, as the remainder of Major-General Allen's command in the Coblenz bridgehead zone on the Rhine already were under home orders.

The announcement of the decision for complete American evacuation of occupied territory in Germany was made by Secretary Weeks as his first act on his return to the war department from a three weeks' vacation in Florida. He added that the step was ordered in compliance with the policy previously announced of withdrawing the Rhine forces as quickly as possible.

It had no relation, he said, to the wrangle in congress over further reduction of the size of the army, nor did it result from the correspondence between the state department and the allied commissioners over the American demand for a share in German reparations payments on account of the maintenance of troops in Germany.

It was admitted at the war department that the action of the United States in completely abandoning the Rhineland position might have some effect on the negotiations resulting from Secretary Hughes' action in submitting a request that the United States receive a share in German reparations payments already made to cover maintenance of the armies of the Rhine.

It was insisted, however, that the step was not a direct result of those negotiations, since complete withdrawal was forecast before the note calling attention to the American bill in excess of \$241,000,000 on this account was transmitted.

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CHILD ACCIDENTALLY KILLED BY GRANDPA

PISTOL IS SEIZED TO MAKE GAME EXCITING.

Little Girl, Dressed Like Gypsy, Is Found Dead in Arms of Dazed Old Man.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Six-year-old Emma Bauer was all dressed up in the hall she scrambled under the dining-room table while daddy, grandma and Uncle Richard sat watching for the nightly game to be enacted.

"Where's my little sweetheart?" inquired Grandpa Ernest Fuchs as he entered the dining room.

"You'll have to find her," smiled Grandma Fuchs.

A giggle gave grandpa the clew and he started toward the table, but drew back in mock alarm as the "gypsy" emerged.

To make the play more exciting he seized a pistol from the sideboard drawer and pointed it at Emma. There was an explosion and she fell with a bullet through her heart.

Ambulance surgeons found the old man sitting in a daze with the limp form of the little "gypsy" in his arms. She had died instantly, they said.

MAJORITY OF 6000 IS HELD

Still to Be Tabulated—Vote Half That Cast in 1920.

66 Small Towns and Plantations

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The total vote today was slightly more than half of that cast in 1920, when women voted for the first time in Maine.

Mr. Peters Becomes Judge.

Mr. Peters, who resigned early this year to become federal district judge for Maine, was elected in 1920 by a majority of 19,257. The missing towns cast 3300 votes in 1920, of which more than two-thirds went to the republican nominee.

Both Mr. Nelson and Mr. McLean are attorneys.

Today's election was the first test of strength between republicans and democrats in the congressional contests of this year. This district was once the stronghold of James G. Blaine.

The district comprises five counties, and always has been strongly republican, but this year the democrats waged a strong campaign in an effort to swing the district for Mr. McLean.

Election Held Important.

In a pre-election statement issued yesterday, Mr. Nelson declared that the election was one of the most important in the history of the state, and said that if he should be elected it would be construed throughout the nation as an "endorsement of the splendid work of President Harding and his co-workers."

Success of the democrats in cutting down the usual republican majority, he added, would give great "encouragement to the fall election."

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25 Men Required to Bring Patient to Grants Pass.

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She was taken to the Hyde Park police station to be questioned.

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Son of Governor-General to Marry Delaware Girl.

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REPUBLICAN WINS IN MAINE ELECTION

Congressional Contest Is First Test of Strength.

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PROTEST ON PETTING AROUSES STUDENTS

VENGEANCE IS VOWED ON MAN WHO NEVER TASTES KISS.

Co-ed Houses Declared to Be Treacherous for Snuggle Parties, Which Are Condemned.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., March 20.—Students at the University of Michigan are waging an intensive "gumshoe" campaign in an effort to locate one of their number who, in a letter in the Michigan Daily, the student publication, openly the signature "The Man Who Has Never Been Kissed," severely criticizes the "promiscuous loving" in which he declares the male students and co-eds indulge.

The students are vowing vengeance on the writer.

Some of the co-eds indicate their belief the missive was prompted by a case of "sour grapes," but assert any "petting" is the exception rather than the rule. The Michigan Daily is withholding the identity of the writer.

The writer says the protest is the result of an editorial appearing in the Daily, which he construes as condoning "so-called 'snuggle' puppings."

Taking the publication to task for not "striking a well-needed blow at an immoral practice that is disgusting and shamelessly evident on our campus," the "man who has never been kissed" asserts also that "almost every place where co-eds are housed on the campus has become an established retreat for 'petting.'"

Joseph A. Bursley, dean, doubts the widespread existence of such practices as those of which the writer complains, explaining while there might be some instances in such a large student body, "the hope of this university lies in the large number of right-minded men and women who are disgusted with such vulgar practices and heartily and actively disapprove of them."

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BANK IS HELD UP; 3 BANDITS CAUGHT

Trio Overhauled by Posse When Car Breaks Down.

ROBBERY IS AT EATONVILLE

Cashier, Assistant and Customer Ordered Into Vault.

ALARM SOUNDED QUICKLY

Within Minute After Holdups Leave Citizens Are in Pursuit.

EATONVILLE, Wash., March 20.—(Special.)—Less than an hour after bandits had robbed the Eatonville State bank this afternoon of \$2400 three were caught by a posse and brought back to Eatonville.

A fourth member of the gang, said to be the ringleader, who was driving the car in which the men made their getaway, was still at large tonight.

All but \$102.50 of the money stolen was found on the bandits at the time of their capture. The remainder is believed to have been lost in the chase or to be on the fourth member of the quartet.

Two Believed to Be ex-Convicts.

The three prisoners are said to have confessed and given their names as Michael Kelly, 25, clerk, J. J. Scott, 20, laborer, and John O'Keefe, 21, laborer, all of Seattle.

None of the trio would divulge the name of the fourth man or comment on their previous history. Two of them are believed to be ex-convicts.

The men were headed for Tacoma when their car broke down about three miles before Eatonville. They then stole Ernest Jacobson's car, but had proceeded only a short distance when they were overhauled by Fred Johnson and E. H. Jackson, who were scouting ahead of the main posse.

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Three Put in Vault.

Two of the men entered the bank at first while the third remained outside a minute or two and then followed the others. They covered the cashier, J. G. Raley, and the bookkeeper, Mr. A. Roseburg. A customer entered the bank about that time and all three were ordered into the vault. The robbers gathered up the money, walked out to their car and drove away. The cashier, J. G. Raley, and the bookkeeper, Mr. A. Roseburg, were heavily armed, at once took up the chase.

When Jackson and Johnson came upon the trio Johnson asked them where they were and where they were going. They said they had been working on the road and were on route to Tacoma and that their car had broken down. When Johnson, who is an Eatonville blacksmith, spoke of the bank robbery the trio wanted to join the man hunt, but Johnson said they did not look good to him and that he ordered them to stay where they were. All