

### WARNING SOUNDED ON TAX REDUCTION

#### Washington Reform Plans Held Too Many.

### LEGISLATURE TO BE BUSY

#### Lieutenant Governor Coyle and Speaker Reed Both Urge Leaders to Unite.

PUGET SOUND BUREAU, Seattle, Dec. 20.—Lieutenant-Governor Coyle, who will preside over the state senate, and Representative Reed, who will be speaker of the next house, are both taking advantage of every opportunity to admonish advocates of tax reduction that their plans and suggestions are too many and too mixed.

The two men who will be least nominally guided in deliberations of the 1923 legislature are themselves strong advocates of governmental economy and the lowest possible rate of taxation that will permit the state to cover its commitments. While neither is particularly attached to any one of the numerous plans proposed by taxpayers' organizations, both Mr. Reed and Mr. Coyle have definite ideas on the subject, and by previous legislative experience are qualified, in a degree, to say what can and what cannot be done without neglect of fixed obligations or sacrifice of efficiency.

#### Three Plans Named.

Three complete plans for tax reform are being prepared, one from each of three distinct sources, will be placed before the legislature. These are the plans, first, of the state tax investigating commission appointed by Governor Hart; second, of the federation of taxpayers' leagues; and third, the state tax limit league. Each of these plans has been before the legislature in some form or another from time to time discussed in the correspondence of this bureau. In some respects they correspond, particularly in certain recommendations for cutting government costs. But when it comes to advice as to shifting present tax burdens and opening up new sources of revenue, they are all at variance.

It is in this phase of the situation that the lieutenant-governor and the prospective speaker of the house find occasion to sound an alarm. While questions of taxation will doubtless dominate the entire session, it is still true that the legislature must first find time for other matters. It is held to be impossible that any one of the three programs should be adopted just as presented, and in view of the marked differences of opinion among the taxpayers it is considered doubtful if the legislature could work out a harmonious program that would be satisfactory to the conflicting forces.

#### Co-operation Is Urged.

What Coyle and Reed have been urging is that the leaders of the various tax reduction movements get together and work out a plan to which the whole body of taxpayers might give united support. Such a plan would command the attention of the legislature, with some assurance of prompt action. It would have to be done before the legislature convenes, and the time is getting very short. To do it would call for the sacrifice of certain opinions advanced in each of the plans, and a general compromise that would not give any one of the organizations all that it is asking for.

Just now bills are being drafted which are designed to carry into effect the multitude of suggestions, changes and reforms proposed in the reports and programs. Aside from the report of the state tax investigating committee and the programs of the two statewide leagues, further complications are indicated by what may be termed the isolated suggestions and plans put forward by local taxpayers' organizations and individual taxpayers. There is good reason to anticipate a flood of bills dealing with taxation and government costs that will be beyond the power of the legislature to digest in a 60-day session.

Both Coyle and Reed are determined that the committees of senate and house to which these matters must be referred shall consist of the ablest men available; but they are frankly doubtful of the ability of any set of men to properly handle the situation unless the taxpayers and their organizations get a little closer harmony in their demands.

### FASCISTI ATTACK NITTI

#### Son of ex-Premier of Italy SAVED From Harm by Duke Carafa.

NAPLES, Dec. 20.—Vincenzo Nitto, son of the ex-premier, was attacked Tuesday by fascists, who charged him with assuming a provocative attitude while a hand was being played by the fascist cabinet. Nitti's assailants were about to administer a dose of objectionable medicine when the fascist consul, Duke Carafa, intervened, saying him from harm.

TURIN, Dec. 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—Renewed conflicts between the fascists and the communists here have resulted in the killing of ten persons, including two of the fascists.

Not long ago the local communists



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lists resumed their openly hostile attitude toward the fascists. Yesterday two fascist parties were ambushed and one man was killed and others wounded. The fascists thereupon mobilized, attacked the chamber of labor and stormed or set on fire the headquarters of other subversive organizations. Inflicting punishment according to what they adjudged to be the relative guilt of the communists. The punishments administered by the fascists included clubbing and giving doses of nauseous medicine.

### MRS. LINCOLN HARD UP

#### POVERTY AFTER HUSBAND'S ASSASSINATION PROVED.

#### Four Hitherto Unpublished Letters Given Out by Grandson of U. S. ex-Treasurer.

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.) NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Four hitherto unpublished letters of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, written shortly after her husband's assassination, were shown to the Tribune correspondent by a grandson of General Francis Pickens, then treasurer of the United States.

Three of these letters are to General Spenser, and one is to Lincoln's son, Robert, phrased in formal business terms and relating to a business matter, but substantiating also other letters indicating the poverty of Mrs. Lincoln following her husband's assassination.

The first communication to General Spenser, dated Clifton House, Chicago, December 20, 1865, refers to the sum allowed by congress to Mrs. Lincoln earlier in 1865. It reads: "General Spenser: My Dear Sir: Mr. Wentworth called last evening and proposed writing you today, relative to the \$25,000 in 7-30s, the remaining \$100,000 in money. I trust, notwithstanding the arduous duties of your office, your health remains good. I am very gratefully yours.

"With this letter was a receipt for \$22,000 issued by the Adams Express company to General Spenser for a packet containing that amount to be sent by the company to Mrs. Lincoln.

The two other letters to General Spenser are as follows: "Chicago, January 11, 1866. "Dear Sir: Since you were so kind as to collect the money coming to me in 7-30s, I hereby order for that purpose. I will leave it to your discretion as to which of the issues to take at the present price. The draft will purchase \$22,000 listed bonds and leave some margin. Please send me a draft for the surplus. With kind thanks for your service, I remain, yours truly, "MARY LINCOLN."

"(Private) Chicago, July 23, 1866. "Dear Sir: You will kindly pardon my long delay in replying to you. The \$10 you loaned to Mr. Williamson on my behalf. For your consideration pray accept my thanks. At the same time may I trouble you to have sent to Galt & Brothers the remaining sum due and in return receive their receipt? Also, will you return the receipt to me? With high respect, I remain, very truly yours,

"The letter to Robert Lincoln, dated Chicago, January 1, 1866, reads: "Robert Lincoln: Thinking it was likely you would attend to Mr. Wentworth's request as soon as practicable, I wrote you in what form to send the money. As this last was my only reason for writing, I will trust to your friendship for not saying you have received a line from me on the subject. With assurance of high esteem, I remain, your truly, "MARY LINCOLN."

### LIQUOR BAN IS ATTACKED

#### IMMEMORIAL USAGE IS HELD TO FAVOR ALIEN SHIPS.

#### Appeal to Supreme Court Against Three-Mile Limit Rule Based Upon International Rights.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—The decision of Federal Judge Hand at New York, holding that foreign vessels cannot bring intoxicating liquors into the territorial waters of the United States, was attacked yesterday in the supreme court by George Wickesham, ex-attorney-general. Summing up his reasons for asking that the lower court be reversed, Mr. Wickesham declared that although the prohibition amendment and the Volstead enforcement act apply to the United States, and all territory subject to its jurisdiction, they do not operate to constitute regulations of internal affairs of foreign merchant vessels coming within American waters.

### ROAD LEVY PROTESTED

#### Douglas Taxpayers' League Wants Reduction to One Mill.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—In protest against the proposed levy of one and a half mills to raise market road money, the Douglas County Taxpayers league today recommended that the proposed levy be reduced to 1 mill. Last year the county levied 1 1/2 mills and the amount was \$6998 more than enough to match the state apportionment and Douglas county's share of the surplus. The league contended that the county court has no lawful right to levy more than enough to meet the 1 mill state levy and the small surplus which is also apportioned.

### RIVERS, HARBORS BILL PRESSED.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—The nominations of Louis M. Hall to be collector of customs at St. Louis and of Alexander Lindsay Jr. to be associate justice of the supreme court of Hawaii, both of which failed of confirmation at the recent special session of congress, were confirmed Tuesday by the senate.

### Chinese Hit by Auto.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—White Lum, a 14-year-old Chinese

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Bishop Quayle to Enter Hospital. BALDWIN, Kan., Dec. 20.—Bishop W. A. Quayle of the Methodist Episcopal church, who is critically ill at his home here, will be taken to a hospital at St. Joseph, Mo., next Tuesday if his condition has improved sufficiently. This announcement was made yesterday by Mrs. Quayle after a consultation with Dr. William J. McGill of St. Joseph.

Read The Oregonian classified ads.

### DRY DECISION UTILIZED

#### RUM-RUNNER FACES STATE AND FEDERAL CHARGES.

#### Full Rigor of Prohibition and Tariff Laws to Be Invoked by Enforcement Agents Here.

Announcement that prohibition officials will take immediate advantage of the recent decision of the supreme court, upholding prosecution in both state and federal courts for violators of the liquor laws, was made yesterday by Frank B. Mitchell, legal adviser of the local dry forces. Tom Ryan, arrested several days ago at Medford with a car filled with smuggled whisky, gin and champagne, will be the first to feel the effect of the high court's decision. Ryan is to be prosecuted at Medford under the state dry law, then turned over to federal officials for prosecution in the United States court here.

Ryan's case will have two distinctions. In addition to being the first under "double-barreled" prosecution, he will not be held in the United States court under the somewhat lenient Volstead act, but will be charged with a violation of the new 1922 tariff act. He will be the first man to be prosecuted in Oregon for smuggling liquor into the country in violation of the recently enacted tariff measure.

"It is only by such relentless prosecution that we can expect to break up the traffic in smuggled liquors," said Mr. Mitchell yesterday. "The validity of prosecution in both state and federal courts for violations of the liquor laws have been upheld by the supreme court of the United States under the tariff act, which was passed expressly for the purpose of stamping out the rum-runners who smuggle liquor into America from foreign countries, in our strongest weapon."

Ryan was arrested when he stopped in Medford for a meal. In his automobile were found 12 cases of high-grade liquors. Papers indicated that he had purchased the liquor in Canada and was transporting it to California. Other statements in his possession showed that he was regularly engaged in the rum-running business.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. Mitchell completed arrangements with District Attorney Moore of Jackson county, whereby Ryan will be held to answer to the state courts on a charge of possessing liquor. As soon as this case is disposed of Ryan will be transferred to Portland to face the charge of smuggling liquor.

Since the enactment of the national prohibition act and until the passage of the new tariff bill the smuggling of liquor into America could be construed only as a violation of the dry laws. The new law, though, specifically defined the smuggling of liquor and provided a prison term of two years on conviction. Ryan's case will be one of the first brought in America under this statute.

### SCOUTS TO BE REWARDED

#### Yule Party Planned for Boys Who Helped in Astoria Disaster.

The Boy Scouts of Astoria, who performed such excellent service following the fire, when they acted as messengers and even took the places of the guards on several occasions, will not be forgotten this Christmas.

A committee of ex-Astoria women, under the direction of Mrs. Willis Dunaway and Mrs. Charles W. Flinton, will give the scouts a big Christmas party, at which there will be an excellent dinner, a tree with useful gifts and many other features.

While the girl reserves, their junior friends and the younger children will be taken care of by the Elks this Christmas, the boys and girls of Astoria more than 12 years old will get their Christmas cheer through their old friends and neighbors now residing in Portland.

The party will be given on the recommendation of the Red Cross and relief committee of Astoria.

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retain the appropriation for the Umqua jetty. Mr. Hawley expressed the opinion that the bill in its present form will pass.

Two Nominations Confirmed. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—The nominations of Louis M. Hall to be collector of customs at St. Louis and of Alexander Lindsay Jr. to be associate justice of the supreme court of Hawaii, both of which failed of confirmation at the recent special session of congress, were confirmed Tuesday by the senate.

U. S. Official Resigns. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—Carl A. Mages, solicitor of Internal

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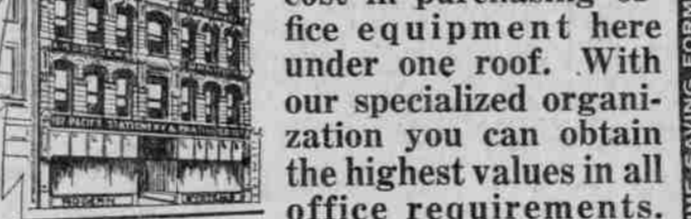
Should your dealer be unable to supply you, tear out this coupon and mail it to the

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lad, was struck by an automobile today driven by Victor Seeborg, city commissioner elect, as he was walking along Exchange street in the burned area and was severely, although not dangerously, injured.

Chinese Hit by Auto. ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—White Lum, a 14-year-old Chinese

Christmas shipment of Hartz Mountain and St. Andrewsberg Canaries here.

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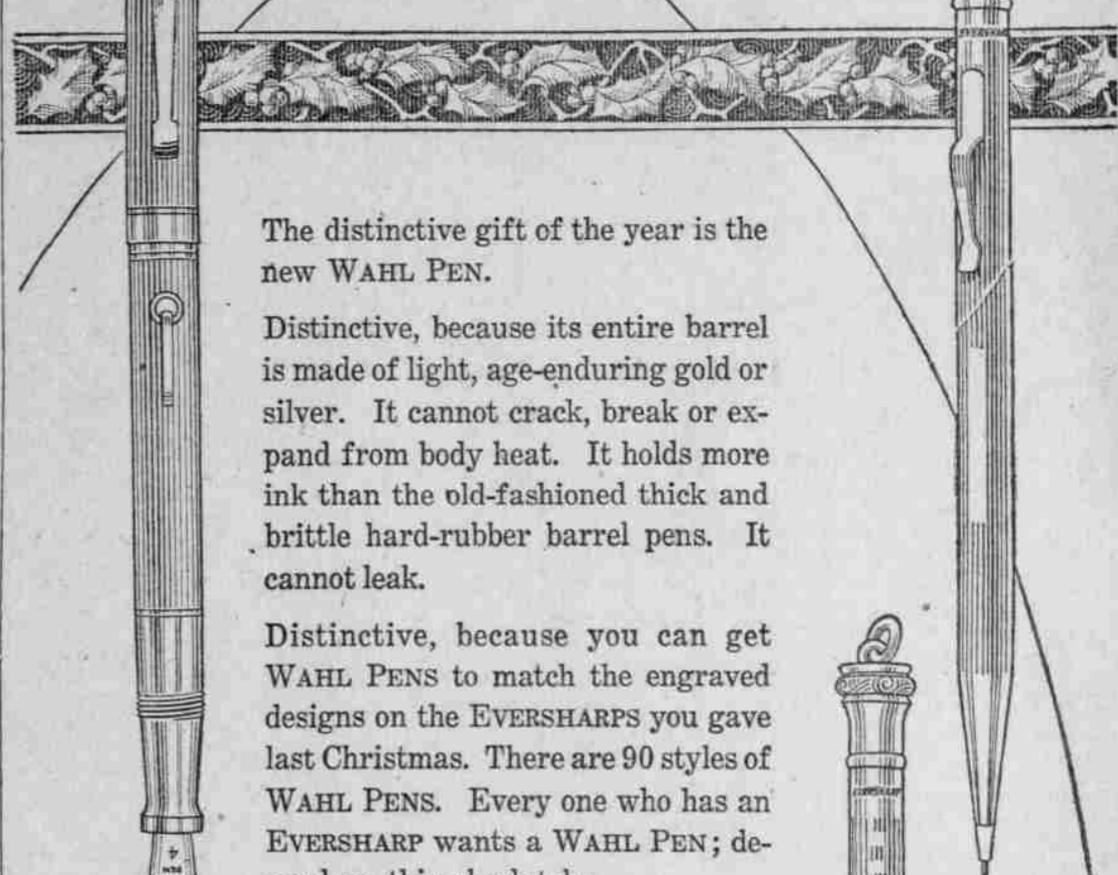
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