

# JULY CLEARANCE SALE

OF  
**BEN SELLING** LEADING CLOTHIER

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in Men's Wear until you have read this list from beginning to end—it will save you more money than you have ever been able to save before on MEN'S CLOTHING, FURNISHINGS and HATS. EVERY ONE of our high-class SUMMER SUITS and OUTING SUITS is included in this money-saving list—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Men's \$35 Suits; Sale Price . . . \$25.00 | Men's \$25 Outing Suits; Sale Price \$15.00 |
| Men's \$30 Suits; Sale Price . . . 20.00   | Men's \$20 Outing Suits; Sale Price 12.50   |
| Men's \$25 Suits; Sale Price . . . 17.50   | Men's \$15 Outing Suits; Sale Price 10.00   |
| Men's \$20 Suits; Sale Price . . . 13.50   |   |
| Men's \$15 Suits; Sale Price . . . 10.00   |   |

## MEN'S PANAMA and STRAW HATS 1/2 PRICE

- |                                  |                                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| \$15.00 PANAMA HATS . . . \$7.50 | MEN'S \$3.00 STRAW HATS . . . \$1.50 |
| \$10.00 PANAMA HATS . . . 5.00   | MEN'S 1.90 STRAW HATS . . . .95      |
| \$ 7.50 PANAMA HATS . . . 3.75   | MEN'S 1.00 STRAW HATS . . . .50      |
| \$ 5.00 PANAMA HATS . . . 2.50   |                                      |

## SPECIAL REDUCTIONS IN MEN'S FANCY VESTS

We have not reduced everything in our stock—but the cut, or really gashes, we have made will prove the greatest money-savers of the season.

ALL WASH SUITS ONE-HALF PRICE—BIG REDUCTIONS IN BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

# BEN SELLING

LEADING CLOTHIER



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### FOR EQUITABLE TAX

State Commission Proposes Revision of the Law.

### METHOD IS INCONSISTENT

New Measure Would Govern the Equalization of the Assessments as Made Out by the County Boards.

SALEM, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—With a view to securing a more equitable assessment of property in this state, the Oregon Tax Commission has recommended a revision of the law governing the equalization of assessments by the County Board. In this connection, the Commission gives its flat disapproval to the plan often adopted of having the assessment rolls published in newspapers in the locality in which the property assessed is situated. The plan of publishing the assessment list is disapproved because it does not insure a better assessment, because such publication would be practically impossible, and because it would be expensive. The Commission estimates that to publish the assessment list in Multnomah County would cost \$6,000 a year.

The proposed revision of the law relating to equalization of the assessment is largely based upon inconsistencies in the present law, but also upon a laxity in the law by which wealthy property-owners have been able to coerce County Courts into allowing an inequitable assessment to stand. The Commission proposes a law which seems to have "teeth in it," and which will be effective if county officers are disposed to do their duty.

**Present Law Inconsistent.**

The inconsistency in the present law lies in the fact that the County Board of Equalization is required to meet on the first Monday in August, while the Assessor is given until the first Monday in September to file his roll, or until the first Monday in October if the County Court makes an order to that effect. At

the same time, there is no authority of law for an extension of the time of meeting of the County Board of Equalization. Assessors usually take the full time to prepare their rolls, and very frequently ask for and are granted the extension of time. Commenting upon this condition of the law, the Commission says that "the Board of Equalization is thus required to meet perhaps six weeks before the assessment roll is completed, and its functions lapse when it has been in session a week. It must have passed out of legal existence at a date before the Assessor is required to have the assessment roll ready to equalize." To remedy this defect, the Commission recommends the enactment of a law which shall give the Assessor until the first Monday in October to file the roll, and requires him to file it then, and also requires the County Board of Equalization to meet on that date.

"Under the present system we practically have two Boards of Equalization," says the Commission, "one meeting after the other, and having full power to undo the work of its predecessor. The County Board of Equalization consists of the County Judge, County Clerk and Assessor. This board continues in session one week, and if it does not complete its work within the week, the County Court, at its next regular session, completes the examination and correction of the roll.

But the County Court has a different membership than the Board of Equalization, and does not have the advantage of the advice of the Assessor, whose work is being equalized and corrected. The County Court has no power to assess omitted property, or to increase on its own initiative the assessment of any taxpayer. Its functions are solely to complete the work which has been commenced and then left uncompleted. Resolutions have been that in many cases the County Court has entirely undone the work of the board, and instances are not lacking where the County Board of Equalization has adjourned with its work nominally completed, but in reality incomplete, in order to divert the County Court of jurisdiction to perform some threatened act of radical revision."

**What Commission Proposes.**

To overcome this flaw in the system of equalization, the Commission recommends that the Board of Equalization consist of the County Judge, Commissioners, Clerk and Assessor, five in all; that they have power to adjourn from day to day, but not exceeding one month, until their work is completed. Petitions for the reduction of an assessment must be received only when the board is in session, and must be in writing and be verified by the oath of the petitioner. An appeal may be

taken to the Circuit Court from a decision of the Board of Equalization.

The reason for this provision for appeal is set forth in the Commission's report. The Commission says that in some counties injunction suits have been brought to prevent the collection of taxes, and in other counties injunction suits have been threatened until the county courts, in order to avoid litigation and prevent the holding up of funds, have compromised with the wealthy property-owners at considerable loss to the county.

The injunction suits will be because the property-owner alleges that he "has no adequate remedy at law." By providing for an appeal, the property-owner will have an adequate remedy at law for any arbitrary act of the County Board, and hence will have no ground for an injunction suit. The Circuit Court, under the proposed law, will have power not only to reduce the assessment but also to raise it if the trial upon the petition shows that a raise is warranted.

The appeal does not operate as a stay of proceedings, but the assessment, levy and collection of taxes go on as though there had been no appeal, and if the appellant wins, the excessive tax may be refunded to him, and if the assessment should be increased the county may collect the additional tax.

This proposed law contains several provisions that seem to be an improvement upon the existing law. In the first place, a taxpayer will not go before the County Board of Equalization with a written petition unless he has a real grievance, for the court has power to raise his assessment, and his formal petition will serve to call the attention of his neighbors and the public generally to the representations he is making governing the value of his property. Placing the matter of equalization entirely in the hands of one board instead of two will centralize the responsibility and give time and opportunity for careful and well-adviced work.

**No Publication of Assessments.**

Several persons having suggested to the Commission that the new law for the assessment of property and the equalization of assessments should contain a requirement that the assessment roll be published in newspapers, the report of the Commission discusses this subject at some length. The idea was that the publication of the roll would lead to the discovery of considerable property that has not been assessed in the past, and that persons acquainted with property that has been undervalued will make complaint to the Board of Equalization and secure an increase.

Commenting upon this, the Commission says that it would be a physical impossibility for the Clerk to make a copy of the roll for the newspapers after the roll has been completed and before the board meets. The Commission also expresses its opinion that an assessment system

based upon the supposition that one property-owner will complain of his neighbor's assessment is based upon error, for experience shows that they will not do so. It is in this connection that the Commission makes the estimate that the publication of the assessment roll in Multnomah County would cost \$6,000 a year.

### WEIGHT SCALE IS CHANGED

Salmon Canneries Announce a New Schedule at Astoria.

ASTORIA, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—At a meeting this evening, attended by representatives of all the companies operating in the Lower Columbia River, the weight limit between large and small fish was increased from 25 to 28 pounds. The new ruling will go into effect at 6 P. M. on July 29, and the prices will be 7 cents per pound for fish weighing 28 pounds or over, and 5 cents for those under that weight.

Tules are to be 10 cents each. The price since the opening of the season has been 7 cents per pound for fish weighing 25 pounds or over. No trouble is anticipated over this new ruling, as at the opening of the season the Fishermen's Union fixed the price for large fish at 5 cents and the limit at 25 pounds.

### HOQUIAM FRANCHISE DOWNED

Causes Personalities to Flow Between the Councilmen.

HOQUIAM, Wash., July 28.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the Council in this city tonight, the Finch telephone franchise, which has been playing an important part in the city affairs, was brought up. When the ordinance granting the franchise was read, the Council was addressed by Mr. Sands, of the Sunset Telephone Company. E. C. Finch then spoke in favor of the franchise and said that he knew of four Councilmen who had been approached with a consideration to down his franchise.

This statement was not denied, although several of the Councilmen who voted against him became engaged in a heated controversy. The ordinance was defeated by a vote of 4 to 2.

### Guards for Clipper Knot Saws.

OLYMPIA, Wash., July 28.—(Special.)—State Labor Commissioner C. F. Hubbard announced that he has instructed his deputies to require all mills operating the so-called "clipper knot saw" to have the same provided with substantial safeguards or their use discontinued from now on; otherwise certificates of inspection will be withheld from shingle mills using them.

### OIL CAN EXPLODES

Clark County Bride Is Enveloped in Flames.

### CONSCIOUS UNTIL DEATH

Mrs. Pearl Ayres Was Attempting to Kindle a Fire at Her Home East of Vancouver, With Disastrous Result.

VANCOUVER, Wash., July 28.—(Special.)—Mrs. Pearl Ayres, a bride of a few weeks, of Ellsworth, a few miles east of Vancouver, died at 11 o'clock last evening from the result of burns received from the explosion of a can of oil with which she was attempting to start a fire. The accident occurred at 8:30 last evening at the Ayres home.

When the oil can exploded the oil saturated the woman's clothing, causing her to be almost instantly enveloped in flames. She ran from the house and fell writhing in the front of the house, where she was found by neighbors shortly afterward.

Mrs. Ayres was at once taken to the home of one of her neighbors, E. L. French, where she was attended by a physician. Though she was perfectly conscious up to the time she died, yet she seemed not to feel any great pain, it appearing that she was burned too badly to feel the pain.

Mrs. Ayres was the wife of Edward Ayres. They were married July 4. She was formerly of Spokane, Wash., her maiden name being Clauson, and she was about 19 years of age.

The house was completely destroyed, with all its contents.

### HARRIMAN WILL EXTEND LINE

New Road May Connect With the Canadian Pacific.

SEATTLE, Wash., July 28.—(Special.)—The statement made yesterday before the Council committee on corporations that

the Harriman system will build north of Seattle was confirmed today. The line will construct a road into British Columbia. The towns to be tapped en route are not definitely determined, for the road has not been surveyed. In a general way, though, it will tap the same country the Hill systems reach.

This confirmation gives rise again to the story that the Canadian Pacific is interested in the Harriman invasion of Northern Territory. None of the Harriman or Canadian Pacific officials will confirm this story.

### Farmers Busy Harvesting.

HILLSBORO, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—Professor G. F. McKay, of the Iowa State Agricultural College, accompanied by J. W. Bailey, State Food Commissioner, Professor F. L. Kent, of

Corvallis, and H. E. Lounsbury, of the Southern Pacific, were here last night. Professor McKay addressed a meeting of the dairymen of this vicinity, his subject being "Dairying and the Care of Milk."

Owing to the immense hay and grain crops and the scarcity of labor, farmers are doing a great deal of their own work this season, and the meeting was not largely attended.

### Bonus Given to Sawmill.

HILLSBORO, Or., July 28.—(Special.)—The business men of the town have subscribed sufficient money to pay for a site for the Nare, Morgan & Ward sawmill, and the building will be located at the foot of Third street, on the line of the Southern Pacific.

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Special Diseases—Newly-contracted and chronic cases cured. All burning, itching and inflammation stopped in 24 hours; cure effected in 7 days. We cover the entire field of special and chronic, deep-seated, complicated diseases.

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We charge for cures only. We do not expect pay for our services unless we cure a patient sound and well, so that he will be entirely satisfied, and will never again have to be treated for the same trouble. Our financial standing is solid and our long experience in treating special diseases of men insures you of modern, scientific treatment that will accomplish a cure.

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