

STATE'S VALUATION RISES 5.7 PER CENT

Taxable Value of Property Set at \$928,605,570.36 by Commission.

COUNTY'S INCREASE SLIGHT

Umatilla Second, Marion Third in List—Complete Levy Expected Early This Week—Bridge Bonds Puzzle.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—The total taxable value of all property in the state is \$928,605,570.36, according to figures completed by State Tax Commissioner Galloway today.

The total valuation of taxable property as assessed by County Assessors was \$878,762,944.71, an increase for this year of \$49,842,625.65, or about 5.7 per cent.

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Multnomah Pays 36 Per Cent. Umatilla is the second county in the state, showing a total valuation of \$51,507,280.11, as compared to \$48,790,831.15 for the preceding assessment.

Multnomah County's assessment shows a total of \$306,922,846.22 for this year, as compared to \$295,387,984.56, but a slight increase over last year, considering the magnitude of the assessment for that county.

Levy Ready Soon. The State Tax Commission will now settle down to the completion of the tax levy for the ensuing year. This will probably be ready Monday or Tuesday, although it may be delayed.

Just now the Commission is stuck on the small item of what interest must be paid on the Multnomah County bridge bonds. It is necessary to make inquiry whether some of these bonds are to be retired to Spokane, and if they are a slight difference will be made by the amount of interest to be paid by the state and this will affect the levy, although but slightly.

LANE PIONEER PASSES

PRESLEY COMEGYS PROMINENT IN EARLY HISTORY.

Retired Farmer Member of First Grand Jury—Donation Claim Retained Until Death.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Presley Comegy, who cast his first vote in Lane County in 1851 and who was the last to survive of the 16 men who served as the first grand jury impaneled in Lane County, died at his home in Eugene yesterday, at the age of 77 years.

COUNTY AGENTS APPROVED

Governor Withycombe Deplores Attitude Displayed in Some Counties.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Governor Withycombe today expressed the opinion that no county should hesitate about employing a county agricultural agent. A protest has been filed with the County Court of Marion County against the employment of an agent, on the ground that his work is not of sufficient benefit to justify the expense.

CIVIL WAR VETERAN DEAD

Benjamin Franklin Adams Came to Oregon in 1874.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Benjamin Franklin Adams died at the Cottage Grove Hos-

pital November 30 at the age of 75 years. The funeral was held Sunday, Rev. D. A. McLeod officiating. Services at the grave were in charge of Appomattox Post, G. A. R., of which he had long been a member.

DANCING GIRLS MYTHS

Y. W. C. A. EXPRESSES SURPRISE AND INDIGNATION.

Alleged Big Hotel to Be Conducted at Gates of Camp Lewis Appears to Be Figment of Unknown Origin.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Surprise and indignation were expressed by Tacoma women of the National and Local Young Women's Christian Association today at a report which came out from Seattle that the Y. W. C. A. will enlist 3000 girls to live in a big hotel at the gates of Camp Lewis, Tacoma, and act as dancing partners for the soldiers in the pavilions that are to be erected as part of the amusement zone.

The report says Seattle business men were invited to study the concession which will involve the construction of dance halls and hotels and adds that the plan was worked out in co-operation with Major-General H. A. Greene by a citizens' committee. One report is that Olympia men had launched the plan.

VANCOUVER IS PICKED

SHERIFFS TO MEET ACROSS RIVER IN JUNE, 1918.

Washington Officials' Association First Selects Goldendale, Then Changes Decision.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Sheriff E. S. Blesseker has just returned from Spokane, where he attended the Washington State Sheriffs' Association, and brought the good news that the association will meet in Vancouver at its session next year.

APPROPRIATION IS SOUGHT

Horticultural Board Discusses Financial Matters With Governor.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Members of the State Board of Horticulture today called on Governor Withycombe, chairman of the emergency board, regarding the possibility of securing a deficiency appropriation for its activities unless a deficiency appropriation is granted.

CANADIAN ARMY THANKED

BEHIND THE BRITISH LINES IN FRANCE, Dec. 1.—The Canadian Army has just received the thanks of the French Government for its work in caring for the 43 French cemeteries within its jurisdiction.

COMING! MR. FORTUNE GALLO SAN CARLO GRAND OPERA COMPANY

FUTURE OF FRUIT INDUSTRY TALKED

Horticultural Society to Fight for Rights in Legislature and in Oregon Press.

PUBLICITY AGENT NAMED

Annual Meeting of Organization Adjourned at Salem Last Night Following Best Sessions in History of Society.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Although the thirty-second meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society passed into history today, unquestionably the session will live long in the spirit which it has breathed into the members of the society.

All who attended the sessions left Salem tonight imbued with the idea of a crusader in the war to make the Oregon fruit industry one of the largest in the world.

While the attendance at some of the sessions of the society this year may have eclipsed in previous years, it is doubtful if the organization ever before gained the impetus for good which it gathered at this convention.

President Paulus today selected the members of the legislative committee who are to serve in an effort to give horticulture the same recognition politically that it has gained as a commercial industry.

AUSTRIANS STILL IN MILL

Colonel Disque Permits North Bend Alien Enemies to Stay at Work.

NORTH BEND, Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Fearing that enforcement of the enemy aliens act against Austrian subjects would seriously affect the output of the North Bend Mill & Lumber Company, Colonel Disque issued a permit inquiring whether a number of experienced workers of Austrian nationality could not continue working in the mill.

PARDONED MUST PAY FINES

Klamath Lumbermen Released From Prison, but Costs Stand.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—In stating yesterday that he would issue pardons to four lumbermen of Klamath County, serving sentences after pleading guilty to transporting liquor from California into Oregon, Governor Withycombe made it plain that the pardoned men would only incur as they referred to partially unexpired terms of the four men.

BETTER QUARTERS PROPOSED

BANKS, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—A new Postoffice building has been promised Banks in the near future. It is expected that the office will be removed to the building now occupied by the Red Cross until the new building is ready for occupancy.

EXEMPTION OF TEACHERS SOUGHT

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Oregon school authorities are making an effort to have high school teachers exempted from the draft, at least until

the close of the school year, according to a statement made by Superintendent of Schools W. H. Rutherford, of Eugene, who sent a telegram to Senator Chamberlain today urging their exemption.

WATER RIGHT ADJUDICATED

Tillamook Man Given Extension of Time to Comply With Permit.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—The State Water Board today rendered a decree in the adjudication of water rights on Silver River, in Grant and Harney counties. The decree involves water rights for about 67,000 acres of land and covers about 275 claimants.

STAYTON'S SONS IN MIND

Patriotic Women Raise \$120 to Buy Christmas Presents.

STAYTON, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—One hundred and twenty dollars has been raised by the women of this town for Christmas presents for soldier boys. This fund is the result of a benefit dance just given. The next patriotic item on the programme is a bazaar, for which arrangements are under way now.

FIREMEN FURNISH STAMPS

Sunday Set as Soldiers' Letter Day in Corvallis.

CORVALLIS, Or., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—More than 40 members of the Corvallis Fire Department are serving in some branch or other of the Nation's war service.

Gray's Twenty

The best investment any man can make at this time will be to buy clothing for at least a year's wear

The advances in the cost of Suits and Overcoats when stocks on hand are gone will astound you. When I say your clothes will cost you 50 per cent more after the first of the year, I am putting it mildly; and don't forget that the advance in Shirts, Underwear, Hosiery and practically every item of wearing apparel will advance tremendously.

Just Two Prices \$20 and \$30

We ask you to compare our \$20 Suits and Overcoats with those sold anywhere at \$25 to \$30. We ask you to compare our \$30 Suits and Overcoats with those sold anywhere at \$35, \$40 and \$45.

There is no time like the present to get good clothes; no place like Gray's to select them. No special sales, no discounts, no credit to anyone. Our efficiency policy is a saving to all.

R. M. GRAY

CORNER WASHINGTON AND WEST PARK

posing punishment upon all persons responsible for pro-German activities or for the publication or utterance of disloyal statements. Petitions will be circulated in every section of Lane County.

Have You \$4000?

We need \$4000 and the services of live investor to increase our present fast-growing business. Excellent opportunity for a man who is looking to the future. Apply BD 724, Oregonian.

REX BEACH'S GREATEST STORY

The AUCTION BLOCK Starring Ruby de Remer, former star of Ziegfeld's Follies, now known as "The Venus of the Films." Note: The fact that we offer you this supreme production, which costs us a small fortune, at regular prices, is further demonstration of our policy of the biggest and best that money can buy—always.

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