

Proposed Oregon Tax Law

(Continued from last week)

the amount of county expenses to be certified to secretary of state.) Section 6. That section 3088 of the Oregon Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Bell and William W. Cotton, be and the same hereby amended to read as follows: By the 10th of January of each year the county clerk of the several counties of the state shall prepare, upon a blank form prescribed and furnished by the secretary of state, a concise tabulated statement of all the expenses of his county for the preceding year, except money for roads and highways, and money for the erection of bridges, or on account of pestilence, or epidemics, which statement shall be certified to him as such by the clerk and forwarded to the secretary of state, and a duplicate thereof placed on file in his own office.

The only change is to require the statement to be filed by the 10th instead of the 15th of January, and to except costs of court from the statement. As the opportunity statement of 1910 is made on the basis of the assessment of the several counties then, and remains to be certified to the county clerk, the same must make a levy sufficient to cover the amount of the necessary for the statement certified.)

Section 7. The secretary of state shall immediately record such statement in books provided and kept in his office for that purpose, and shall supply the several county clerks with the necessary forms for making such reports, as provided for in this act.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3089, without change.)

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the governor, secretary of state and the treasurer, acting jointly, in January of each year, to ascertain by comparison, as hereinafter provided, the total amount of revenue necessary for the purposes, and to apportion the same to the several counties in the manner hereinafter provided.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3090, as reenacted by Law of Special Session, 1903, page 6, with change.)

Section 9. The aforesaid state officers shall proceed as follows:

1. Prepare a tabular statement, consisting of all the items of expenses, item by item, to which the state will be subject under existing laws for the year next after that year for which the last preceding state levy of taxes was computed and declared; also all items of deficiency, including interest on unpaid warrants left over from the previous year, the payment of which has not been authorized by law; and also the sum provided by law for the current expenses of the Oregon National Guard, and the sum of \$47,500 for the support of the University of Oregon, and the sum of \$25,000 for the support of the State Agricultural college; and also, when such levy is made on the assessment of an even year, the estimated expense of one biennial session of the legislative assembly; and also, when such levy is made on the assessment of an even year, the estimated total cost, not exceeding \$200,000, of such additional public buildings and improvements of public buildings of the state as the said state officers shall believe it necessary to make during the fiscal year for which such levy of taxes is computed.

2. From the sum total of the aforesaid items shall be deducted any surplus in excess of \$5,000 remaining in the treasury from all funds, however derived, if not applied by law to some special purpose.

3. The remainder so obtained shall be the total amount of revenue to be raised the next ensuing year for state purposes which are not provided for by special tax duly authorized by law; and said remainder shall be apportioned among the several counties in the manner hereinafter provided, and be levied and collected in each of said counties in the manner other taxes are levied and collected, and be paid over to the state treasurer.

4. In order to ascertain the proportion of such taxes to be paid by the several counties, said state officers shall ascertain from the report of expenditures of the several counties on file in the office of the secretary of state the average amount of expenditure in each county during the period of five years; and each county shall pay such proportion of said state taxes as its average amount of expenditures for said period bears to the total amount of expenditures in all of the counties of the state; provided, that all of the indebtedness and expenses incurred by Baker county in the acquisition of that portion of what was formerly a part of Union county, and known as the "Panhandle," by reason of the assumption by Baker county of a portion of the then existing indebtedness of Union county, and the expenses incurred by Baker county in obtaining from Union county the recede relating to that part of Union county added to Baker county, known as the "Panhandle," shall not be con-

strued or considered a part of the expenses of Baker county under this act for any of the years in which said expenditures were made: Provided further, that the amount paid by any county in reducing or discharging its indebtedness, or paying interest on its indebtedness, shall not be considered a part of the expenses of a county under this act. Such computation to be made by said state officers in 1910, and in January in each fifth year thereafter. Until the January, 1910, computation the proportion of the state taxes to be paid by the several counties shall be as set out in the following table, to wit:

Counties.	Per cent.	Counties.	Per cent.
Baker .....	.0234	Lincoln .....	.0056
Benton .....	.0204	Linn .....	.0256
Clackamas .....	.0235	Malheur .....	.0094
Clatsop .....	.0212	Marion .....	.0613
Columbia .....	.0190	Morrow .....	.0095
Coos .....	.0203	Multnomah .....	.1123
Crook .....	.0130	Polk .....	.0393
Curry .....	.0040	Sherman .....	.0087
Douglas .....	.0045	Tillamook .....	.0087
Gilliam .....	.0087	Tillamook .....	.0490
Grant .....	.0092	Union .....	.0223
Harney .....	.0160	Wallowa .....	.0073
Jackson .....	.0314	Wasco .....	.0074
Josephine .....	.0090	Washington .....	.0391
Klamath .....	.0115	Wheeler .....	.0067
Lake .....	.0197	Yamhill .....	.0321
Lane .....	.0402		

(No change from section 1, Laws 1903, page 302, except to omit two lines immediately preceding the table, which is based on the assessments of the several counties for the past five years, as not literally true, in an act to be now enacted. The original table was found in Laws of 1901, and the table was based on the assessments made during the five years prior to that year.)

(Secretary of state to report to legislative account of collections and appropriations.)

Section 10. The secretary of state shall embody in his printed report to the legislative assembly an accurate transcript or account of the aforesaid annual collections and periodical appropriations occurring between the biennial sessions of the legislature; and he shall also transmit immediately after said apportionment an accurate transcript of it to the county clerks of the several counties, and in no case shall any deduction or abatement be made from the apportionment to the respective counties on account of the delinquent taxpayers.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3092, without change.)

(Numerous statutory provisions for special and general levies of taxes by counties, cities, towns, school districts, road districts, and Port of Portland, and for the inclusion in the state apportionment of certain sums, may be found in the special statutes and city charters; others are intimately connected with statutes directing the disposition of the funds so levied. To attempt to group them in a chapter dealing of the subject of the levy and apportionment of taxes generally would be all but impossible, and misleading if accomplished, and is not attempted.)

(Of the Collection of Taxes and Proceedings in Relation Thereto.)

(Words "tax collector"—Meaning.)

Section 11. The words "tax collector" wherever used in this act shall be taken to mean the person or officer who by law is charged with the duty of collecting taxes assessed upon real property, and shall be held to include his deputy.

(New.)

(Treasurer is tax collector.)

Section 12. The treasurer of each county shall be the tax collector thereof.

(Substitutes treasurer for sheriff in B. & C. Comp., section 3093. The changes in the succeeding sections necessitated by this change will not be specifically noted.)

(Bond as tax collector—Cumulative to general official bond.)

Section 13. Before entering upon his duty as tax collector the treasurer shall give a bond, signed by some responsible surety company, or some responsible surety or sureties as approved by the county court, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as such tax collector, in such amount as the county court shall direct, and such bond, if signed by a surety company, shall be paid for by the county court. Such bond shall be additional and cumulative to the general bond given by the treasurer, to which resort may be had in case of failure or default of his duties as tax collector if the bond described in this section be unenforceable or insufficient.

(The last nine lines of section 3094, B. & C. Comp., without change, except change of title of officer.)

(Extension of taxes by county clerk.)

Section 14. The county clerk of each county in the state shall, immediately after receiving from the state board of tax commissioners a copy of the assessments of persons and property within his county, made and certified by said state board of tax commissioners, enter and apportion the same in the assessment roll which has been made by the county assessor, and corrected and equalized by the county board of equalization, and returned to said clerk. Said clerk shall forthwith after receiving all the notices provided for in section 4 of this act, and after the apportionment of taxes, make a certificate of the several amounts apportioned to be assessed upon the taxable property in his county for state, county, general, and special school and road, military, university, town, city, port, or other purposes for which a tax may have been legally levied, and deliver the said certificate to the tax collector of the county, together with the said assessment roll containing the assessments made by the county assessor as corrected and

Both Ways.

Fawell (just before the banquet)—I believe I am to be the third speaker. Noker comes just before me, doesn't he? Toastmaster—I think so. I heard him say, though, that he was going right after you. How-How.

Larry—'Twas th' funnest joke I iver hur-rud in all me born days. Faith, O! laughed all day long. Denny—Yes did? Larry—Yis, ivery bone in me body fit lakke a funny bone.

equalized by the county board of equalization, and also containing the assessments made and certified by the state board of tax commissioners entered therein, ruled with proper columns for the extensions of tax collections and delinquent list, and for payments, issuance of certificates, reconceptions, issuance of deeds, and other entries therein as contemplated by law, and with the total amount of taxes properly extended and entered thereon in one sum against each separate parcel of real property, as well as against the personal property assessed to each individual. Such roll shall thereafter be a tax roll, and there shall be attached thereto a warrant, in the name of the state of Oregon, under the hand of the said clerk and the seal of the county clerk authorizing the collection by said tax collector of said taxes; and such clerk shall thereupon take the receipt of said tax collector therefor, and duly charge against the tax collector the full amount of taxes charged on such roll; and the tax collector shall in settlement be allowed as credits against such charge such amounts as he shall report to the county clerk of his county, as hereinafter in this act provided, that he has collected on said roll, also such as he shall find to have been twice assessed thereon, and such as he shall be unable to collect, and shall so return to the court as not collectible. All such tax rolls shall be public records, and as such preserved in the office of the tax collector.

(Compare B. & C. Comp., sections 3096 and 3099. Omits the now obsolete provision for computing valuations after equalization by state board of equalization, substituting after equalization by the county board and entry of assessments certified by the state board of tax commissioners. Provides also for computation of amounts to be made, and as to valuation and rate in the several road districts, ports, and other municipal taxing agencies. See Laws 1903, page 287.)

Provision of the clerk shall extend the tax in one total sum. The separation among funds on the roll and in tax receipts is unnecessary when the several rates of levy are specified, as the method of accounting and the requirement for distribution of each payment in the tax collector's collection register shows the exact amount of taxes for each municipal agency with which the collector is to deal, and the amount collected by him. In several counties of the State the distribution is carried on the receipt stub on the roll, and also in the tax collector's collection register. This causes much additional and useless labor and confusion at the busy season of the year. In the larger counties the former practice was abandoned from the very necessity of the case, and no loss of accuracy or fullness in accounting resulted. A very large saving in clerical force was thereby made.)

(School, town, city, port, or other taxing agency levy—On what valuation.)

Section 15. All the taxes hereinafter levied by any incorporated city or town, school district, road district, port, or other municipal taxing agency or district, shall be levied on the property therein respectively assessable upon the valuation of such property as shown by the assessment roll last compiled by the assessor, corrected and equalized by the county board of equalization, and including entries therein of assessments as certified by the state board of tax commissioners and apportioned to such municipalities by the county clerk. And it shall be the duty of the county clerk in each of the several counties, upon the application of the clerk or board of school directors of any school district, and of any road supervisor, or of any three resident freeholders of any road district, or of the recorder, auditor, or clerk or common council, board of directors, or trustees or other governing body of any incorporated city or town, port, or other municipal taxing district or agency, to furnish a certificate, under the seal of the county court, showing the aggregate valuation of the assessable property in the school district, road district, incorporated city or town, port or other taxing district or agency, from which such application shall have been made.

(Add provisions as to port or other municipal taxing agency or district; modifies provision as to valuation of property on which levy is made—old law provided it shall be on assessment roll last compiled. This adds, as corrected and equalized and including assessments made by the state board of tax commissioners. Also consolidates part of Laws of 1903, page 382, as to road districts, but makes no change.)

(All taxes levied to be collected by same officer and in same manner as county taxes.)

Section 16. All taxes levied by any school district, road district, incorporated city or town, port or other municipal corporation or taxing agency or district, now or hereafter authorized by law to levy taxes, shall be collected by the same officer and in the same manner and at the same time as taxes for county purposes are collected.

(See first two lines of B. & C. Comp., section 3100; Laws of 1903, page 284, section 74; B. & C. Comp., section 4651, to the same effect.)

(Taxes to be paid in gold and silver coin.)

Section 17. All taxes levied in this state by the authority of the state or a municipal corporation therein upon any person or property in this state shall be collected and paid in gold and silver coin of the United States, and not otherwise.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3157.)

(Grantor or grantee—Which to pay tax.)

Section 18.—As between the grantor and grantee of any land, when there is no express agreement as to which shall pay the taxes that may be assessed thereon before the conveyance, if such land is conveyed at the time or prior to the date of the warrant authorizing the collection of such taxes then the grantee shall pay the same, but if conveyed after the date the grantor shall pay them.

(B. & C., section 3153, no change.)

(To be continued next week)

Of Course She Would.

"And then, mind you," exclaimed Miss Passy, "he asked me if I wouldn't marry the first man that came along." "The idea!" remarked Miss Knox. "Don't these obviously unnecessary questions make you sick?"—Philadelphia Press.

Society Favorite.

Edyth—They say that Percy Featherly is losing his mind. Mayme—Poor fellow! He'll be lucky if he doesn't lose any more than that.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Friday, January 25
Washington, Jan. 25.—Resolutions to check naval officers from "lighting a fire under senators and representatives to compel the enactment of the naval personnel bill at this session" were presented in the senate today by Hale, and, after causing a snappy debate of short duration, went over for future consideration. Hale's resolution cites the president's order forbidding government employes to "lobby," and directs an inquiry by the secretary of the navy to ascertain whether the order is being violated.

The urgent deficiency appropriation bill, carrying \$279,000 as it came from the house and authorizing by a senate amendment a loan of \$1,000,000 to the Jamestown Exposition company, was passed. The latter part of the day was devoted to the disposition of pension bills.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The house today passed a number of bills of a local nature, including 830 private pension bills. The agricultural appropriation bill was then taken up, and while it was under consideration, Kahn, of California, addressed the house on fire insurance companies and their relation to the city of San Francisco, before and after the earthquake and fire. The question of the free distribution of garden seeds occupied the rest of the day.

There was a general debate on the committee provision appropriating \$238,000 for the purchase and testing of new, rare and uncommon seeds, bulbs, trees, shrubs and vines, and omitting the usual appropriation for the purchase of ordinary flower and garden seed for distribution.

Thursday, January 24.
Washington, Jan. 24.—The session of the senate today was held entirely with reference to the death of Mr. Alger. Dr. Edward Everett Hale delivered a special prayer, and after the reading of the journal of yesterday was completed Senator Burrows presented resolutions expressing regret and sorrow at the sudden death and providing for a special committee of 12 senators to represent the senate at the funeral in this city and attend the body to Detroit. The resolutions were agreed to, and on motion of Senator Burrows the senate at 12:17 adjourned as a further mark of respect.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The house today voted to abolish all the pension agencies throughout the country, 18 in number, and centralize the payment of pensions in the City of Washington. This action was taken on the pension appropriation bill after spirited opposition on the part of those having pension agencies in their states.

The pension appropriation bill, carrying \$138,000,000 in round numbers, was passed. A message from the president was read relative to insurance, and at 3:30 o'clock, out of respect to the memory of the late Senator Alger, of Michigan, the house adjourned.

Wednesday, January 23
Washington, Jan. 23.—The senate today accepted the proposition of the house of representatives to increase the salaries of senators, representatives and territorial delegates to \$7,500 annually and those of the vice president, the speaker of the house and members of the president's cabinet to \$12,000. This action was taken by a vote of 53 to 21 and followed a discussion of nearly three hours.

Senator Albert J. Beveridge, of Indiana, addressing the senate today on his bill to prohibit the transportation in interstate commerce of the products of child labor, declared that the census shows that nearly 2,000,000 child bread winners under 15 years of age are now at work.

Washington, Jan. 23.—The river and harbor appropriation bill, which was reported to the house today by the committee on rivers and harbors, carries an appropriation aggregating \$83,466,188. Of this sum \$34,601,612 is appropriated in cash, to be available between July 1, 1907, and July 1, 1908, and \$48,834,256 is authorized for continuing contracts, no time limit being fixed as to when it shall be expended. The bill will probably not be considered by the house until next Monday.

This bill is a record breaker in size, exceeding by many millions the amount allowed for river and harbor improvements in any previous congress.

Fight for Pension Agencies.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, stated today that he intends to organize a fight against the abolition of nine of the 18 pension agencies of the United States. The house committee on appropriations has reported a bill appropriating for only nine of the present agencies, and the members of the committee defend the action on the ground of economy. Dalzell says it would be far more economical to pay all pensions from Washington, and will take the stand that all the present agencies should go.

Gold Production Increases.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The Geological survey announced today the total production of gold and silver in the United States for 1905, aggregating 60,365,342 fine ounces, with a valuation of \$122,402,676. Production of gold aggregated 4,265,742 fine ounces, valued at \$88,180,700, an increase of \$7,716 over the previous year. Total production of silver was 56,101,600 fine ounces, valued at \$34,221,976, a decrease of 1,581,200 ounces in actual output.

Tuesday, January 22
Washington, January 22.—The senate today passed the compromise Foraker resolution authorizing the committee on military affairs to investigate the facts of the affray at Brownsville on the nights of August 13 and 14 last, without questioning "the legality or justice of any act of the president in relation to or connected with that affray." This action came after the subject had been under consideration almost daily since the first day of the present session of congress, and every phase of the question had been discussed on all sides.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The house today passed the diplomatic consular appropriation bill, which carries a total of \$3,138,000, and the military academy appropriation bill, carrying \$1,954,483.

During the consideration of the diplomatic bill, speeches were made by Sherry of Kentucky, on the "treaty making power;" by Sladen, of Texas, who urged a more liberal recognition of the South in the matter of diplomatic appointments, and by Longworth, of Ohio, who spoke in favor of the United States owning the residences of its foreign representatives. Cousins, of Iowa, made the opening speech in explanation of the measure.

Monday, January 21.
Washington, Jan. 21.—A spectacular speech by Senator Tillman was the chief feature of an exciting day in the senate. The South Carolina senator's effort was a reply to the recent criticism of himself by Spooner. He began with a satirical picture of the senate as a minstrel show, which he later said was his first and last attempt to be "funny," an attempt which at its conclusion brought a stinging denunciation from Carmack in resentment of allusions to him.

This was preceded by a serious reply from Spooner on the attitude taken by Tillman on the race problem, all finally resulting in a session of nearly two hours behind closed doors.

The secret session was followed by a brief open one, in which Tillman made a profuse apology to Carmack, to all senators whom he had brought into his "first essay in the line of humor," and finally to the entire senate.

The Brownsville affair was the subject of controversy, and the day began with the announcement of a compromise resolution, which brought Republican and Democratic senators together on the basis of ordering an investigation of the facts of the affray without bringing into question the authority of the president to dismiss the negro troops. The resolution was submitted to and approved by the president at a conference yesterday.

After the speeches and mutual apologies had been made, Foraker attempted to get a vote on his resolution. Objection was made and the matter will be taken up tomorrow.

Washington, Jan. 21.—The house today pronounced unanimously in favor of enlarging and making more efficient field and coast artillery by passing the bill for that purpose.

An interesting political discussion grew out of the passage of the so-called "political purity" bill, prohibiting corporations from making money contributions in connection with elections. A bill was passed authorizing the secretary of Commerce and Labor to investigate and report upon the "industrial, social, moral, educational and physical condition of woman and child workers in the United States." The measure has already passed the senate.

After the passage of a number of bills under suspension of the rules, the house passed the District of Columbia appropriation bill.

Abolish Free Seed Graft.

Washington, Jan. 23.—The house committee on agriculture today decided to recommend the discontinuance of free seed distribution by congress. Instead of appropriating the customary \$250,000 for this purpose, the committee will advise in the report upon the agricultural bill, which it is now preparing, that this sum of money be used for the purchase of rare seeds to be distributed by the department of Agriculture.

Alaska Indians for Chemawa.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Senator Fulton secured the adoption of an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill permitting the education of Alaska Indian children at the Chemawa Indian school.

McCaskin to Be Major General.

Washington, Jan. 23.—It is semi-officially announced that Brigadier General William McCaskin, commanding the department of Texas, will be promoted to the grade of major general on the statutory retirement April 14 next of Major General James F. Wade. The present understanding is that Colonel Charles B. Hall, Thirteenth infantry, in command of the infantry and cavalry school at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., will be appointed to the vacancy in the list of brigadier generals, which will occur early in March.

Wins Wager but Dies.

Los Angeles, Jan. 22.—Edward Whelan, aged 19, died today at the receiving hospital of acute alcoholism. The young man was brought to the home of his father, a mattress manufacturer, last Saturday night, in a stupefied condition. His companions stated that he had wagered a dollar that he could drink a quart of whiskey without leaving the table. Whelan won the bet, but he never regained consciousness. The police will prosecute the liquor man.

Revolt Starts in China.

Shanghai, Jan.—Rumors of an anti-dynastic movement in the Middle Yangtze region have reached some confirmation. A fresh outbreak has taken place at Houande Houf, and two regiments have been dispatched there from Shanghai. The insurgents number 3,000.

MISSION AT AN END.

British Governor Refuses Aid for Suffering Kingston.

Kingston, Jamaica, Jan. 22.—Rear Admiral Davis' mission of mercy to stricken Kingston came to an abrupt and painful conclusion in consequence of Governor Swettenham's objection to the presence of American sailors engaged in the work of clearing the streets, guarding property and succoring the wounded and sick, culminating in a letter to the admiral, peremptorily requesting him to re-embark all parties which had been landed.

Admiral Davis was greatly shocked and pained, and paid a formal visit to Governor Swettenham, informing him that the United States battleships Missouri and Indiana and the gunboat Yankton would sail.

To the Associated Press Admiral Davis said that immediate compliance with Governor Swettenham's request was the only course consistent with the dignity of the United States.

The friction between the governor and the admiral began with the arrival of the American warships, when the governor objected to the firing of a salute in his honor on the ground that the citizens might mistake the firing for a new earthquake. He also declared there was no necessity for American aid—that his government was fully able to preserve order, tend to the wounded and succor the homeless.

CITY ASKS DAVIS TO STAY.

Kingston Council Disapproves Action of Governor.

New York, Jan. 22.—A special dispatch to the Times from Kingston says that Governor Swettenham, in addition to refusing aid from Rear Admiral Davis, has declined an offer sent by the War department of the United States to extend immediately to Kingston 10,000 rations which were intended for troops in Cuba, and would have been diverted here.

The governor's action, the Times correspondent says, is disapproved of by the community, which appreciates the kindness of the Americans. As soon as it became known what had been done by Governor Swettenham and that the American ships, in consequence, were to leave, an emergency meeting of the city council was called.

The discussion showed that the governor's attitude toward the Americans did not meet with the approval of those officials, and a letter to Admiral Davis was drafted and adopted in which the action of Sir Alexander Swettenham was wholly disapproved, and the American government and officers were warmly thanked for the thoughtful, effective and timely aid they had given in the emergency. This letter was immediately dispatched.

Admiral Davis was also asked to remain in spite of the unfortunate incident. The request was dispatched to him and he made a reply in which he said that there was no misunderstanding with the Jamaican authorities, but he added significantly in reply to the request to remain: "As a foreign naval officer I am bound to respect the wishes of the constituted authority of Jamaica."

DAMAGE TWO MILLIONS.

Fierce Gale Sweeps Over Lake Erie Erie and Buffalo.

Buffalo, Jan. 22.—During the last 24 hours this city has been swept by the most destructive wind storm of a decade. Tonight the Niagara falls lie in the midst of a scene of wreckage in the wake of the storm. Two lives are reported lost so far and a property damage that will aggregate \$2,000,000 when the accounting is made, is the toll of the storm.

Lake Erie, with its level higher than has been known for 20 years, has gorged the Niagara river to overflowing and thousands of dollars worth of property has been carried down the stream.

Miles of docks at the great lumber market at North Tonawanda have been destroyed and millions of feet of lumber have been carried out into the river.

The damage to shipping in Buffalo harbor alone is \$1,500,000. Five large lake liners, wintering just inside the breakwater, were driven aground. The gale still rages and no aid can be given the endangered vessels.

May Re-Elect Bailey.

Austin, Tex., Jan. 22.—Senator Bailey's friends announced today that a vote on his reelection as senator would be forced in the legislature tomorrow. If subsequently he is proved guilty of improper relations with the Waters-Pierce Oil company, he will, they say, be compelled to resign from the senate. Bailey's supporters further announced they would insist on a proper hearing being given to any one who had charges to make against the senator. Representative Cook states that he will file charges against Senator Bailey.

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