

SPECIAL TAX FOR NEW COURT HOUSE IS FAVORED

"It is absolutely necessary to construct a new courthouse large enough to accommodate all the county offices, and we feel justified in recommending that the same should be carried out without further delay. We further recommend that a levy of 1 1/2 mills per year be charged the taxpayers for the years 1909 and 1910. This amount would be sufficient to build and furnish a new courthouse."

Following the recommendation of three previous grand juries, the December grand jury, which presented its final report to Judge Gantenbein in the circuit court yesterday afternoon, gave voice to its courthouse ideas in the foregoing language. No suggestion was made as to the location of the new building.

That a courthouse will be provided for in the new tax levy this month is now regarded as a foregone conclusion. The rapid growth of county business and consequent overcrowding of the offices has been severely felt in the past year, and the satisfactory condition of county finances gives an added reason for early action. The levy proposed by the grand jury would in two years provide approximately \$750,000 for building and equipping the courthouse.

Praise for Officials.

The report of the grand jury commends Sheriff Stevens for his work of his tax collection department and commends County Clerk Fields for the manner in which his office is conducted. Recommendations are made for new deputies for the district attorney and for the payment of the rental of the district attorney's office by the county. Regarding the need for new deputies the report says:

"After thoroughly investigating the office of the district attorney, we are unanimous in the opinion that the district attorney has an additional number of deputies in view of the fact that the city and county are growing and the violation of laws are continuing on the increase. In view of the fact that there are 16 different places that the district attorney and his deputies must cover, we as a body feel justified in making this recommendation."

Conditions at the city jail are treated as follows:

"Out of the number of buildings and offices we have called on and examined we will state that we have found the city jail to be in the greatest need for new quarters. We understand from the caretakers that there are accommodations for about 25 to 30 inmates, and we are told by the assistant chief that at times there have as many as 80 to 100 prisoners as one time, which have to be taken care of in these quarters, which are entirely too small. We also found that the municipal courtroom was small and dingy and the building as a whole is in a rundown condition from old age."

Mild criticism of the county farm is made because it is not self supporting, and particularly because the farm buys hay, grain and potatoes. One item of \$250 spent for potatoes is pointed out, and the belief is expressed that these "spuds" could have been raised on the farm.

The full recommendation concerning a new courthouse reads as follows:

"We went through the courthouse, from the basement to the courtroom, and after doing so we consider it our duty to call attention to the fact that it is absolutely necessary to construct a new courthouse large enough to accommodate all the county offices, and we feel justified in recommending that the same should be carried out without further delay. We found through efficient and economical management of public affairs the county is now out of debt, and while we commend the policy of those in charge of the county's affairs which has resulted in the building of so many miles of permanent macadamized roads, even it has caused some delay in the construction of the courthouse, we feel that the time has now come when without interruption of the construction of the courthouse, provision be made not only for present needs but for future requirements, and that a building be constructed ample in size to answer the necessities of the county for future use."

"We further recommend that a levy of 1 1/2 mills per year be charged the taxpayers for the years 1909 and 1910; this amount would be sufficient to build and furnish a new courthouse."

Personnel of Jury.

The grand jury consisted of George F. Barringer, foreman; William B. Honeyman Jr., E. A. Peering, D. Creighton, W. A. Curry, Charles Anderson and J. C. Buckley. Thirty-two true bills were returned during the month and seven not true.

With its final report the grand jury returned indictments against Frank Braun and Al Miller, the Rose City Park car robbers; B. F. Gorman, accused of conducting a fraudulent employment agency; A. E. Lett, for larceny; Harry Grov, for assault with a dangerous weapon; Ed Farrell and J. Wilson, for assaulting a guard in escaping from Kelly's Butte, and Rosa de Cicco, charged with assault. Mrs. de Cicco is already serving a two year term for striking a policeman with a sledge hammer.

Alexander Shipheute was indicted for a statutory crime, and a not true bill returned as to A. Halstern and Carrie Saltzman, charged with a like offense. C. MacLeod was released from the charge of fraud in giving a promissory note, a not true bill being returned.

2 MONTHS' MONOPOLY OF LIQUOR BUSINESS

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Walla Walla, Wash., Jan. 1.—Two months' monopoly of the liquor business in Dayton, county seat of Columbia county, a town of 3500, has been granted to a saloonkeeper by the city council. At the recent city election the voters decided that hereafter the town should be dry.

But a difficulty arose. There was no money in the city treasury to refund the unpaid portion of the licenses. After some deliberation the council decided to let them run out, and issue no more. So it happens that after all the city licenses have expired, Louis Grossmiller will have a monopoly of the liquor business in Dayton for two months.

LIBRARY NEEDS MORE MONEY

Rapid Growth of Institution Necessitates Large Expenditures for 1909.

Portland's public library is growing at such a rate that more funds will be needed during the coming year in order that the institution may keep up with the demands made upon it by the general public, according to the report of the president of the association, W. B. Ayer, just made to the county commissioners.

In the report it is shown that the property of the association consists of a half block at Seventh and Park streets valued at \$300,000, while the furniture and building are worth \$200,000. On the east side the association owns a quarter of a block at East Alder and Fourteenth streets, valued at \$6000, and a building and furniture valued at \$3000.

No value can be placed upon the books of the library, says the report. Of these there are 423 for the central library and 14,896 in the branches, stations and county schools, making a total of 15,319. In addition the association has funds amounting to \$112,915 invested in different manners.

In summing up the condition and growth of the library since 1904 President Ayer sets out that in 1904 the library had a total circulation of 174,385 books. In 1905 the number was 177,974, in 1906 the total had reached 217,743, in 1907 the volume had reached the sum of 222,733, while at the end of the present year the total was 406,784.

One peculiar condition noted in the report shows that while the circulation from the central library for the year 1908 was 250,725, the books sent out from the branches were only 156,053. This is just opposite in proportion from other cities where the branch libraries send out more books than the main station. This is due to the lack of facilities at the branches of the Portland library in large part. It is to meet this condition by providing a larger equipment that President Ayer contends that more funds will be necessary for the operation of the library in the future.

"All of the branches are greatly hampered by the lack of books, and it is recommended that before new branches are opened those already established at Belmont, the East Side and Abbe should be adequately provided for in order that they may meet the demands made upon them by the public."

The report closes by stating that the credit for the high efficiency of the public library is due to the librarian and her assistants. The report of the librarian is now being prepared and will be submitted to the commissioners in a short time.

BRIDGE HEARING IS CONTINUED

City's Experts Testify as to Alleged Defects in Concrete Structure.

Little progress was made at the session of the bridge investigating committee yesterday. Examination and cross-examination of Engineers Moffett and Donald for the city occupied all afternoon and much of the evening. The city experts continued their testimony that the reinforced concrete structure on East Twenty-eighth street is defective and not in accordance with the specifications. The Northwest Bridge company's experts continued to deny that there are any defects.

The city, however, seemed to have the better of the argument yesterday. Engineer Moffett stated that in his opinion the concrete used in the columns had not been properly mixed and evenly distributed, and this, he said, weakened the structure and constituted a marked and tangible defect.

He was asked by Attorney L. A. McNary of the bridge company if he had not made a mistake in calculating the strength of the columns supporting the long span. The company wished him to go over the figures again, but Mr. Moffett declined to do so at that time. The

engineers of both sides will meet Monday morning to check over the figures. Mr. Moffett agreed that if a mistake were found in the calculations he would admit it.

The second expert to take the stand for the city was Engineer Donald. His testimony bore out what he had stated in his written report. He stated that the reinforcing rods in the south abutment and wing walls were improperly placed and that the strength of the bridge is materially affected thereby.

After questions by Chairman Esterly of the investigating committee the engineer declared emphatically that the structure had not been built according to plans and specifications.

Metzger's Jewellers and Opticians, 343 Washington st., bet. 7th and Park.

SAYS CHANGE IS NOT PROBABLE

There is no need for worry over the prospect of Portland losing the headquarters of the lighthouse district. A letter received yesterday by the Chamber of Commerce from Senator Fulton states that the lighthouse board will not remove the headquarters from Portland to Bellingham and if a new division is

made it could have no effect on the headquarters of the existing district.

Senator Fulton's letter is as follows: "Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.—Referring again to the matter of the reported movement to have headquarters of the lighthouse district removed from the Columbia river to Bellingham Bay, I find that it all arose out of resolutions adopted by the Bellingham Chamber of Commerce asking that it be done. There is no disposition whatever on the part of the authorities here to make any change, as they say the Columbia river is near the center of the district. The proposition to create an extra district is one that has been recommended by the lighthouse board for several years and it arises out of a desire to have authority to create an additional district with a view to placing Alaska in a district by itself. That

would have no influence in the matter of the location of the headquarters of the existing district.

"W. FULTON."

ALLEGED SWINDLER HELD AS VAGRANT

S. W. Steffner, who the police say has recently passed several worthless checks, was arrested yesterday with his family in a tent on the boulevard nearly a mile west of Zion. Among the checks was one for a small amount cashed by the F. Oregon.

Eyes tested free at Metzger's.

MOYER'S SACRIFICE SALE MEN'S SUITS

Our regular \$10 and \$12.50 values at the nominal price of

\$6.95

We PROMISE you that these are the equal of \$15 suits sold elsewhere.

SPECIALS IN CHILDREN'S CLOTH

All Boys' \$10 Suits and Overcoats Now	\$6.95
All Boys' \$7.50 Suits and Overcoats Now	\$4.95
All Boys' \$5 Suits and Overcoats Now	\$3.35
All Boys' \$3.95 Suits and Overcoats Now	\$2.60

WHEN YOU SEE IT IN OUR AD IT'S SO

MOYER

3d and Oak
1st and Yamhill

The Latest Styles in Ladies' Suits



New arrivals are now shown in our Ladies' Cloak and Suit Department, and they are priced right. This department has won a very gratifying success, owing to the fact that our garments are always new, up-to-date and made of the best materials and moderately priced.

Prices Are Fully 33 Per Cent Lower Here Than at the Exclusive Stores

Then our easy terms make buying here a great convenience. A small cash deposit, then

\$1 A WEEK
will secure any suit or cloak in the house.

BEST HEATING STOVES WITH ALL THE PIPE NEEDED FREE

The "Prize" burns wood, has a heavy gray iron lining within the steel body, cast iron top and bottom, and is warranted for 5 years. Prices \$11, \$13, \$15. PAY \$1 DOWN, \$1 A WEEK

The "Novel" burns either wood or coal, handsome nickel trimmings, prices from \$10 up, and will be sold on the same easy terms.

There are other styles, also, and all are guaranteed by the manufacturer.

THE GREAT "GEVURTZ" ALL STEEL RANGE

Warranted for 15 years. Quickest Baking Range. Built Satisfaction Guaranteed. SOLD ON \$1 A WEEK PAYMENTS

Wear a Watch While You Pay

Select one from our Jewelry Department and pay ONLY \$1.00 A WEEK



WE HAVE FURNISHED NEARLY ALL PORTLAND'S LEADING HOTELS AND ROOMING HOUSES—"THERE'S A REASON."

GEVURTZ & SONS

First and Yamhill Second and Yamhill

Schloss Bros.' Stylish and Dependable Suits and Overcoats

Give the wearer an air of distinction not to be had in other clothes. They have that perfect "tailored" look about them, and perfect "tailored" they are, because they are made by as good tailors as money can hire. We call special attention to our

Suits and Overcoats at
\$22.50 AND \$25

None but the highest priced custom tailors can turn out clothes to compare with these Suits and Overcoats.

Pay a Small Deposit, Then

\$1 A WEEK
Open Till 10 P.M. Saturday

