

DELEGATION FROM MULTNOMAH INSISTS ON TAX REBATE LAW

Representative-Elect Cobb of Opinion People Will Not Stand for It.

ECONOMY IS DISCUSSED

Prediction Made That Taxpayers Are in for Serious Disappointment; Comments Humorous.

Not heeding the warning of Representative S. B. Cobb, the Multnomah legislative delegation last night went on record in favor of enacting a law providing for a 2 per cent rebate on the second payment of taxes if paid when the first payment is due.

The delegation committed itself to definite provisions to be incorporated in a new tax law. These provide for semi-annual tax payments, the first due April 5 and the second October 29. If the second half is paid also on or before April 5 a 2 per cent rebate will be allowed on the second half. If the first half is not paid when due it will draw interest at the rate of 1 per cent a month until paid. If the second half is not paid when due a penalty of 5 per cent will be added and interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum will be charged. Another section will provide for the discontinuance of publication of delinquent tax lists and require notices of delinquency to be sent to taxpayers affected.

Rebate Will Cause Protest. "If you allow a rebate on tax payments you will hear a cry of protest from all over the state," warned Representative Cobb. "The people didn't approve of it before and they don't want it now."

Senator L. S. Smith of Coos and Curry counties, who is also preparing a tax measure and was a visitor at last night's meeting, serves a notice that he would use all his influence in fighting a rebate provision when it came before the legislature. City Commissioner C. Bigelow, head of the department of finance, told the lawmakers that when the rebate provision was in effect before it was necessary for the city officials to add 3 per cent of the city's budget each year to make up the amount of the rebate. In addition, he said, one and one-half per cent had to be added, as now, to cover the amount of delinquent taxes.

Action of Delegation Not Binding. All of the provisions for the proposed tax law were adopted by a viva voce vote of the delegation, but before it was decided to go on record it was agreed that the action of the delegation was not to be binding upon the members when they get to the legislature.

Much of the discussion was over the time for tax payments, it being proposed at first to make them May 5 and November 5. City Auditor Grutze, Commissioner Bigelow, City Attorney LaRoche and State Treasurer Kay all protested against such late payments. The city officials declared it would be impossible for the city to conduct its business under such conditions, while the state treasurer said the state also would be greatly handicapped.

At the request of the state treasurer, the delegation indorsed a provision to require 50 per cent of the state taxes to be paid over to the state treasurer by the counties by May 1 and the remaining 50 per cent by November 1. Smith Opposes Rebate. Senator Smith of Coos county presented the provisions of his proposed tax measure. He would change the date for making assessments to January 1, require the tax roll to be completed by June 15, would make the first half of the taxes due November 1 of the current year and the second half of the taxes due May 1 of the year following the making of the assessment. He opposes the rebate, and would add five per cent penalty for delinquency in the second payment.

State Treasurer Kay said Senator Smith's ideas would throw the tax laws into confusion again and urged simplicity in making tax assessments. E. S. Huckaby, chief deputy tax collector in Multnomah county, also urged simplicity in drafting a tax law. He said there was need of heavy penalties to induce the taxpayers to pay promptly.

Senator Farrell prodded the members on their economy pledges and provoked a rather warm discussion when he presented a resolution in favor of a 20 per cent reduction in the salaries of all state and Multnomah county officials. The resolution was voted down. "You gentlemen were elected on an economy platform and I want to see where you stood," said Senator Farrell.

No Wholesale Cuts Favored. Senator Day retorted that if Senator Farrell would specify the salaries he wanted to cut the measure would get support, but that the delegation would not commit itself to a wholesale reduction in salaries regardless of merit. Representative Horne said he was opposed to a reduction in the salary of the \$4 men on the public payrolls.

On motion of Senator Langsuth, Chairman Littlefield appointed Farrell and Langsuth and Horne as members of a committee to study the salaries of all state and Multnomah county officials, and submit recommendations as to decreases or increases.

This led to a discussion of economy. Representative Huston pointed to their economy pledges. He said soon after the election the members received a copy of resolutions from the Chamber of Commerce, urging economy. The members looked about for places to economize and considered the elimination of the \$10,000 appropriation for the immigration commission. He said at once a large delegation from a number of Commerce and Commercial club men with the delegation and urged that the appropriation, instead of being wiped out, be increased.

Can Cut Elevator Man's Pay. "Then we considered the appropriation for the Social Hygiene society," he said, "and now some very prominent citizens have been to see me about that and have convinced me that the society is doing a good work. Every appropriation we mention has its supporters, who are ready to point out the benefits being derived from it. At the state house in Salem the elevator man gets a salary of \$20 or \$40 a month and the only place I see where we can economize is to cut his salary in two." Representative Andrew C. Smith, speaking in defense of the work of the state board of health, wanted to know where there would be any economy by eliminating boards whose members don't receive any pay from

the state. He told some pointed stories to illustrate his views of such efforts at economy.

"The people of the state are going to be greatly disappointed in this legislature," declared Senator Smith, of Coos. "They expect economy and lower taxes. As the state taxes are only about one-fifth of the total taxes paid by the people all the trimming that we can do is on expenditures. It will not be noticeable on the tax rolls."

Fellow Committeemen "Stubborn." Senator Day said his committee on consolidations was going to report in favor of making the state treasurer's office the department of finance of the state and placing under the state treasurer the corporation department, the insurance department and the banking department. He said his committee would be ready to report at once, only he has with him on the committee "two stubborn men." The two other members are Representatives Cobb and Wentworth.

Secretary of State Ben W. Olcott directed the attention of the delegation, by letter, to an opportunity to save \$1,000 every 10 years by repealing the laws requiring the courts and assessors to take a census of the state. He said the information gathered by the assessors has never been compiled, but is dumped into the secretary of state's office in such form that it is of no use, and anyway that the federal census will serve all purposes.

Senator Moser said as the requirement of the census was a constitutional provision its repeal would have to be submitted to the people.

Treasure Car Is Missed by Bandits

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 29.—Two bandits held up and robbed the last Grove street car as it was en route to the car barns in East Oakland at 2 o'clock this morning.

One of the robbers, concealed on the rear fender of the car, pulled the trolley from the wire. Company J. P. Fenton, not suspecting a robbery, went to the rear to replace the trolley pole. As he came around the end of the car he faced a revolver in the hands of the bandit and was forced to give up his money, amounting to \$21. The bandits then made a hurried escape.

It is believed by railroad officials that the bandits planned to rob the "treasure car," which was due at that point at the time after collecting the total day's receipts from the different car barns. The treasure car had been delayed a few minutes by a defective switch, thus saving the company's funds.

NORTHWEST NOTES

Two Deaths at Freewater. Freewater, Or., Dec. 29.—J. A. Clements, one of the pioneers of the Walla Walla valley, died Sunday afternoon at his home after a long illness. He was born in Indiana, December 7, 1844.

In 1865 he crossed the plain by ox team. In 1866 he was married to Miss Marguerite Lawlor of this city and five children was the result of the union. They are George Clements, W. B. Clements, Mrs. John Dereberry and Mrs. Gain Davis, all of Freewater, and Mrs. Joe Price of Emis, Wash. The funeral was held from the Freewater Federated church this afternoon, Rev. R. W. Warrington having charge of the services. Interment was at Walla Walla.

Harry Bertram Chilcoat, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Chilcoat, died Christmas day at the family residence, of pneumonia.

Morse Was Not Victim.

Centralia, Wash., Dec. 29.—Coroner Edward Newell recently sent to Shamer & Wolf, Seattle tailors, the clothes worn by the man beaten and robbed in a Vander rooming house on the night of December 5. Yesterday the coroner received a reply to the effect that the suit was made by them two years ago and that they have no record of the buyer. It being evident that the dead man will not be identified as Oliver Morse, a telegraph lineman, it is now thought he might be James Hart, a member of the Aberdeen lodge of Eagles, who disappeared on December 5.

Albany, Or., Dec. 29.—Setting up that it contains more than one cause of suit and that they are not separately pleaded, B. J. Hecker, as defendant, yesterday filed a motion that the complaint of the Russian Doukhorob society be struck out. The Russians seek to recover money they paid on 1000 acres of land in Linn county, which was sold to them by Hecker and which they allege was misrepresented.

COMMUNITY SING AT ARMORY TONIGHT



Percy A. Campbell.

At 8 o'clock tonight Campbell's American band, Percy A. Campbell, director, will open the big community sing at the Armory with a stirring selection. Then will follow other numbers by the band until W. H. Boyer, director of music in the Portland high schools, takes the concert in hand and directs the singing of favorite songs by the audience and popular choruses by some 500 boy and girl students of the Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson high schools.

Admittance to the Armory drill hall, where the sing will be held, will be absolutely free of charge and the public is invited. The Armory has capacity for more than 3000 and it is expected it will be taxed.

The affair is given by the city under the auspices of the Monday Musical club, whose officers and committee have left nothing undone to make it one of the principal musical events of the season. Mrs. G. J. Frankel is president of the club and Mrs. Chester Deering is chairman of the committee on arrangements. She is ably assisted by Mrs. Nettie Greer Taylor and Mrs. Herbert Garr Reed.

Court Is Delving Into Hypnotism

Judge Stevenson Finds Difficulty in Determining to What Extent Performer May Go and Not Violate Law.

So involved was the question of how far under the influence of hypnotism a person can be placed without violating the law on the subject, that Municipal Judge Stevenson, hearing the case against Dan W. Flood, proprietor of the Lyric theatre, charged with permitting a hypnotic exhibition, took the case under advisement until this afternoon. Attorney J. Fitzgerald, who appeared for Flood, asserted that Professor H. A. Lorenz, who is giving the exhibition at the Lyric, is not reducing his subjects to complete unconsciousness, but Patrolman Bales, who viewed the performance and then at the orders of Captain of Police Moore arrested Mr. Flood, asserted that Lorenz was sewing together the lips of the subjects, pulled them around by the hair, knocked them off chairs and told his audience that they were as completely dead as they ever will be.

Bound Over to Grand Jury.

Garry Fulcher, Robert Wilson and Mrs. Robert Wilson, alias Mabel Weygand, identified by Michael C. Plank as the three who slugged and robbed him at the Bennett hotel, First and Taylor streets, Saturday night, waived preliminary hearing before Municipal Judge Stevenson yesterday morning, and were bound over to the grand jury on a charge of assault and robbery. Mr. Plank is building superintendent for the Umbdenstock & Larson Home-acres of land in Linn county, which was sold to them by Hecker and which they allege was misrepresented.

VILLA AND CARRANZA GIVE STATEMENTS OF RESPECTIVE CAUSES

Two Mexican Leaders Both Claim They Are Fighting for Liberties of Mexico.

CARRANZA ACCUSES VILLA

Says He's Surrounded by Huerta Clique and Conservatives; Villa Says He Is Fighting for Peace.

(United Press Leased Wire.) New York, Dec. 29.—"Villa is surrounded by the military elements who supported Huerta" and "his triumph would be equivalent to a triumph of the Cientificos"—Venustiano Carranza.

"I shall struggle without rest until I see the peace of Mexico realized and the principles of the revolution established"—Francisco Villa. The above are extracts from statements from the first chief of the Mexican constitutionalists and his former adherent to the United Press. These statements were sent in response to a request that the American people be told exactly what the two rivals sought to obtain for revolution.

They are as follows: By Venustiano Carranza. I desire that the American people should know the present situation in Mexico. According to the agreement of Guadalupe, I am to continue in charge of the Mexican government until constitutional order is reestablished. In September I called together the military chiefs to approve a program of reforms needed by the country. However, Villa, by pressure, succeeded in having the convention in Aguas Calientes name Eulalio Gutierrez for president. The majority of the military chiefs ignored Gutierrez, confirming me for the office of first chief. I consider Gutierrez only a tool of General Villa. Villa is surrounded by the military elements who supported Huerta and also by Cientificos and agents of the foreign capitalists interested in preserving the plutocratic regime. Zapata united himself with the remnants of the Huerta army and continued the rebellion in the south. Both the Villa and Zapata armies are to a great extent composed of the remnants of the Huerta army and represent a reactionary movement.

He's a Pure Revolutionist. The military chiefs grouped around me represent tendencies purely revolutionary and radical. The present situation is a continuation of the fight on Huerta. The movement of which I am the head being entirely revolutionary, and there being concentrated in some cities a large number of conservative elements opposed to revolution, I prefer in certain cases to abandon these hostile cities to the forces of Villistas and Zapatistas in order that the true tendencies and the differences between the one and the other movement may be known. In other cases evacuation is required for strategic reasons.

Not succeeding in dictating the reforms Mexico requires, on account of the insurrection of General Villa, I propose to dictate them now and soon to publish my political program. For this purpose I hope that the country will soon be convinced that a triumph by Villa would be equivalent to a triumph of the Cientificos, supported by General Apodaca. The Mexican people will then turn their sentiment toward the real revolutionaries, and I hope that the bona fide Zapatistas will quickly abandon Villa.

Woman Out of Danger. Centralia, Wash., Dec. 29.—Mrs. J. Rankin, wife of one of the strike leaders at the Eastern mill, who tried to kill herself Saturday night by drinking carbolic acid, is reported out of danger.

that I desire to avoid all cause for conflict giving all possible protection to such foreign interests as have been justly acquired.

By General Francisco Villa. I state to you in the most definite and categorical manner that I support, and shall support, with all the forces of which I may dispose, the government established by the convention of Aguas Calientes and that I shall struggle without rest until I see the peace of Mexico realized and the principles of the revolution established.

ENGLAND MUST PAY FOR HURT TO SHIPPING OF U. S.

(Continued From Page One.)

would take steps to prevent further infringements. He asserted that the negotiations would cover a considerable period of time and also predicted the British foreign secretary would consider the note at length before replying.

As France has adopted practically the same decrees on contraband as has England, the note was virtually a statement intended for all the members of the Triple Entente. The document ended by pointing out that complaints on every side and public criticism in the United States holds the British policy as exercised since the beginning of the war as responsible for the depression in many American industries, a situation the seriousness of which must be apparent to Great Britain.

Right of Search Admitted. Admitting the belligerent right of search of ships at sea, the American note says that five months have elapsed during which time the American government has exercised patience, hoping as for all the men, progress, violations of American rights would cease. American shippers, too, have adopted the suggestions of the British government, as to shipping cargoes to definitely named consignees in neutral countries and as to taking out certificates of cargo from consuls of the allied nations in American ports. The note emphasizes, were designated conditional contraband by international law and Lord Salisbury himself, stating England's position during the Boer war, said: "Foodstuffs with a hostile destination can be considered contraband of war only if they are supplies for the enemy's forces. It is not sufficient that they are capable of being so used; it must be shown that this was in fact their destination at the time of the seizure."

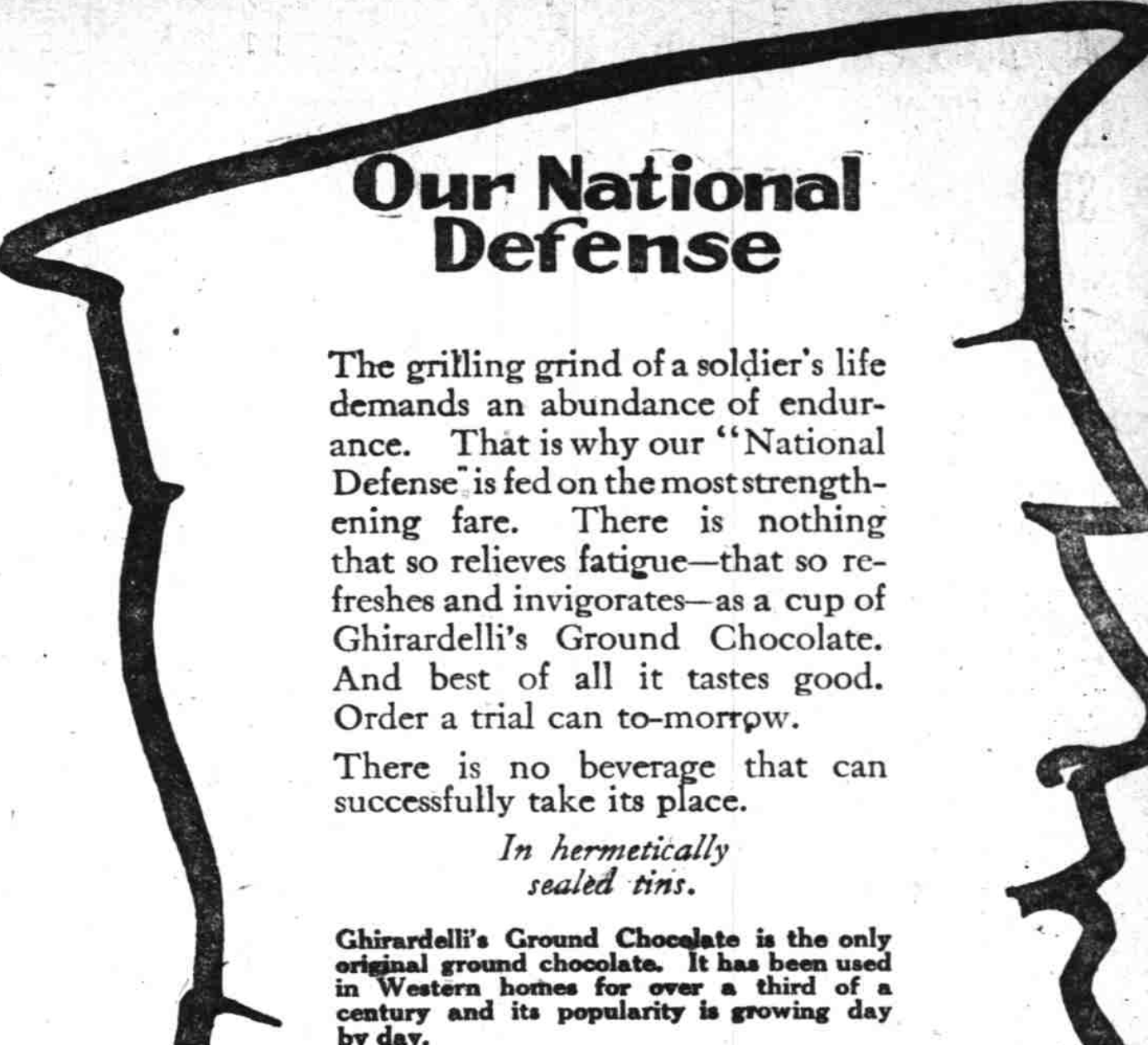
United States May Ship to Germany. If the British government accepts its own definition of contraband the United States will be able to resume the shipment of foodstuffs to Germany and Austria—a trade which now is virtually at a standstill. Undue delay in examining ships at sea and the taking of ships to British ports for examination of cargo will not be tolerated, the note states directly. Proof of hostile destination of cargo must be in evidence at the time of the examination at sea. American ships must not be diverted into belligerent ports merely on suspicion. It is stated that commerce between neutral countries is one of the normal relations of peace, not war; and the burden of proof of guilt must be imposed on the belligerent country which interferes with a neutral's shipping. Presumption of innocence favors the neutral, it alleges.

Other Neutrals Will Follow. It is expected here that the South American and other neutral countries will follow the lead of the United States in protesting against undue interference with shipping by Great Britain.

The declaration of London, drafted in 1914, embodied previous understandings of international law and new rules for the conduct of sea warfare with respect to neutral commerce. Last August England declared the declaration in effect with certain modifications. Germany announced she would hold to the entire declaration if other belligerents would do so. The United States in turn said she must follow the generally accepted principals of international law, not the interpretations placed on them by belligerent nations.

During the present struggle it is more than ever necessary that there should be an absolutely uncompromising policy toward the conservative element, which has not been sufficiently chastened to obtain complete pacification of the country.

Regarding the relations between Mexico and the United States, I shall show by deeds and not by mere words, my animosity by sentiments of cordiality toward the people and the government of the United States, and



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