

# BARBUR EXPLAINS BENEFITS GAINED BY CONSOLIDATION

## Duplication of Effort and Lost Motion, With Attendant Increased Cost, Pointed Out.

### TAX-LEVYING IS INSTANCED

#### Seventy Separate Bodies in Multnomah County Make Assessments; Hindrances Noted.

In Multnomah county and the city of Portland there are 72 bodies which may levy taxes. They are the county commissioners, four city and town governments, dock commission, Port of Portland, Library association, county school fund, high school tuition fund, two union high school districts, seven road districts and 53 local school districts.

For 1918 the total amount of taxes levied in city and county was \$7,496,632.72.

For county administration including roads, library and schools, \$2,017,129; for city and town government, \$3,082,638; for Port of Portland, \$477,462; and for local schools, \$1,949,403.

The total assessable property in the county was \$305,059,760, in the city of Portland \$248,815,375.

Theoretically, two separate governments, city and county, exercising jurisdiction for local purposes over the same territory, will result in duplication of effort, working at cross purposes, needless expense and loss of efficiency.

Saves Money, Says Barbur

"There is no question but that consolidation of city and county government will save a great deal of money to taxpayers," said City Commissioner Barbur. "We should have combined the two governments years ago. I have been talking it for 10 years but it is only now that there seems to be a general interest in the subject."

"A consolidated city and county government consisting of seven or eight commissioners to assume the duties of the 60 boards now in operation would probably create a greater efficiency than did the institution of a commission government in Portland.

"Besides the administrative boards, the present city and county administration carries with it a large number of officials, elective and appointive, who in some cases nearly duplicate the work of others and perform functions which could be far more effectively handled by one official.

"Begin with the officials who handle taxes and the collection of assessments. First of all we have a county assessor who prepares assessments for general taxes and then we have assessment clerks under the city auditor. I have seen assessments for street and sewer improvements within the city. A citizen wishing to purchase property must first visit the county assessor at the courthouse to determine the amount of taxes due or about to be assessed against the property in question, and then go to the city hall and interview the city

auditor's office for further information. At least, this is a great inconvenience to the public.

Must Go to County

"Taking another view, when the city assessor clerk prepares his assessment for street and sewer improvements it is necessary for him to secure data from the county assessor of the assessed value of the property as well as the name of the owner and his address. This necessitates virtually daily visits to the courthouse, causing much lost time and motion. So, whether you view the matter from a standpoint of the public or the officials concerned, a consolidation of these offices would be advantageous.

"Again, take the offices of county treasurer and city treasurer. Here again the citizen paying his taxes must go to the county tax collection department while his street and sewer assessments are paid to the city treasurer. A consolidation of tax-collecting offices would result in a less inconvenience to the public, less bookkeeping and the mailing of fewer notices, as one annual tax statement or possibly two semi-annual statements would cover all assessments against property whether of taxes or improvement liens.

"In the same way, the county auditor and the city auditor, when combined into one office, would benefit the public and expedite the work of auditing.

Illustration Is Given

"A concrete example of the benefits of consolidation of assessments under one central body is in connection with the case of the city of Kings Heights and Arlington Heights properties. Here both taxes and street and sewer improvement assessments are delinquent. Yet in the case of the sale of this property by the city for delinquent street and sewer assessments it is doubtful whether the city could claim ownership until in some way the payment of the delinquent taxes had been made to the county by the city. A problem like that, which under the present government would create difficulties, would easily be disposed of under one central authority.

"Again, the consolidation of the police bureau with the county sheriff's office would render police service more effective. Merging of the municipal court with the other courts of the county would mean the speeding up of criminal trials and procedure.

Save Time and Trouble

"A consolidation of street, road and engineering matters in one central office would mean a great saving of time and trouble. Let me give you a concrete illustration. Recently one of the inspectors in my department reported that a wood sidewalk running along the St. Helens road through the heart of Linton was in a defective and dangerous condition. Inasmuch as the walk lay on a county road I immediately informed the county of the condition of the walk, but in due time received notice from the county commissioners that the walk had been placed along the side of the road by the city of Linton a few years ago and that the county wasn't responsible. I then found out by consulting the city attorney that before the city could do anything further it would be necessary to petition the county commissioners to allow the city to take the county road over as a city street and after such permission was obtained the city could improve the street by laying sidewalks and assessing the cost against benefiting property owners. While this information and legislation is being secured, the people of Linton are in daily using a defective and dangerous sidewalk.

Charter Amendment Required

"The benefits of consolidation have also become apparent in sewer construction. Both the proposed Peninsula district sewer and the Johnson creek

sewer which will eventually drain the Mt. Scott district, will carry the drainage of considerable territory outside the city.

In order to allow the construction of sewers draining territory both within and without the city, a charter amendment and also a legislative act were passed last year. Even this at the very best is cumbersome and awkward and yet the act in reality does consolidate the city and the portion of the county where a sewer is necessary in much the same way as the city and county should be consolidated for all governmental purposes. It certainly is a waste of time and money whenever an engineering project inside and outside the city have to lobby a bill through the legislature and cumber an already overburdened ballot with a petty administrative measure.

One Body Advantageous

"Again in the matter of adjustment of tax levies one central tax levying body is certainly advantageous. One comprehensive budget on a strict basis submitted each year is far better than the seven separate budgets which now daze the taxpayers of Portland. Now each tax levying body looks at point, often making a mountain out of a mole hill whereas one centralized budget would allow financial aid to the project or service that might be uppermost and most necessary at that time. One year the schools might need particular attention, another year port development, and a centralized administrative body could probably attain a truer perspective than several scattered boards.

St. Louis, San Francisco, Baltimore and Denver have already consolidated their city and county governments and Cleveland and Los Angeles are now working to the same end. The Taxpayers' Association of California has made an exhaustive report upon the benefits accruing by a consolidated city and county of Los Angeles. Here it is planned to form one central government for an area of 1182 square miles incidentally eliminating 38 incorporated municipalities, 137 school districts, 34 lighting districts, three waterworks districts and 33 road improvement districts with an eventual estimated saving of \$2,700,000 per year."

Finns Send Army To Fight Bolsheviki; British Guard Ships

Copenhagen, Jan. 4.—(U. N. S.)—Three of the five British warships which recently arrived at Helsingfors which a Finnish transport loaded with soldiers to Reval, it was learned here today.

More than 10,000 Finlanders have joined the voluntary army to oppose the Bolsheviki.

Automobile Bought By Davis Nets \$1000

A \$1000 money order was received by Chief of Police Johnson Friday from San Francisco police, the amount received from the sale of an automobile purchased by Arthur C. Davis with funds he admits stealing from the East Side bank on November 1. The chief signed the order over to President H. H. Newhall of the bank. This brings the total recovered at the time of Davis' arrest, in bonds and cash, to \$43,135.85.

Frank D. Hennessy Decides to Go Back to Life on Deep Sea

Former Police Judge to Enter Engine Room of Steamer Callababas.

Frank D. Hennessy, erstwhile lawyer, police judge, impersonator of Uncle Sam, singer, bon vivant, and Elk booster, has hearkened to the call of the sea.

Having run the gamut of achievements on land, Judge Hennessy will again seek the deep recesses of the engine room on board ship, where, amid throbbing machinery, driving piston rods, and bells and gongs, he will pursue the even tenor of his way wherever the fortunes of the mariner may lead.

Few people in Portland know that Judge Hennessy in former years followed the sea for a livelihood. The fact is that years ago he was a member of the crew of the steamer Geo. W. Elder and later the steamship Columbia. The latter vessel was wrecked on her run between Portland and San Francisco, but Hennessy was not on her at that time.

Tiring of deep water, Hennessy struck shoreward and took a position on the dredge Columbia, owned by the Port of Portland. Finally he set his stakes on terra firma. As a landsman he came into local prominence as municipal judge, a position which he held from 1898 to 1900. It was said that Hennessy sang his way into office. His popular campaign slogan, "Put Me Off at Buffalo," made a hit with the voters and he was elected.

Until a few months ago Hennessy was executive secretary of the Columbia River Shipbuilders' association.

He is now signed as second assistant engineer on the government steel steamer Callababas, built by the Albina Engine & Machine works.

Hennessy says he will take on board ship his famous Star Spangled Banner suit, high hat and false whiskers, with which he has impersonated Uncle Sam in many street parades in this city. It was Hennessy's ambition to wear the suit in a triumphal procession of the American flag, legitimizing and validating Berlin, but the sudden ending of the war spoiled these plans.

Armenians Extend Thanks for Funds

There will be read in Sunday schools Sunday morning a cablegram from Jerusalem expressing thanks to the Sunday school children of the United States for their hearty response to the appeal for funds for the relief of the unfortunate Armenians and Syrians. The Sunday schools were asked to raise a two-million dollar fund, in addition to the big \$2,000,000 fund to be collected later on. The First Christian church of Portland to date has reported in the largest amount for the fund, a total of \$529.

Letter Comes Like Message From Dead

Pendleton, Jan. 4.—Coming like a message from the dead, Charles Pell, well known Pendleton farmer, today received a letter from his son, Hilmer C. Pell, who had been officially reported as missing in action since November 6. Young Pell's name is in today's casualty list. The letter is dated December 6, and makes no mention of ever having been missing or meeting with any other adventure. It says he expects to be home in two months, if things go right.

Eisner Objects to Leaders of League

Munich, Jan. 4.—(U. P.)—Karl Andel, leader of the German-Austrian league, occupied with his staff the Austrian legation and consulted here, Bavarian policemen, acting under instructions of Kurt Eisner, head of the Bavarian government, finally persuaded them to leave.

### MILWAUKIE CAPTAIN SEES SERVICE ON MANY FRONTS



Captain C. L. Johnson

Captain C. L. Johnson, son of Mrs. Margaret Johnson of Milwaukie, Or., has been in service in France during the recent American drives. After being trained at La Courtiere, France, he was attached to the Twenty-sixth division and went to the front lines opposite Seicheprey in the Poul sector and later to Belfort, in Alsace, where he was sent into the front lines with the Thirty-second division. From there he went to Chateau-Thierry, and then to the Meuse-Argonne front where he was injured in action, his horse, which was killed, falling on him. On his recovery, he was promoted to adjutant of the Second battalion of the One Hundred Forty-seventh regiment, field artillery.

Captain Johnson joined Battery A 14 years ago and served as first lieutenant at the Mexican border. On American entrance into the war, he was commissioned captain and assigned to another company in the One Hundred Forty-seventh artillery and left for France with that unit.

Boats Designed for Package Trade

Chairman Hurley of the United States shipping board, while on a visit to allied European countries recently, said that he had been unable to dispose of any of the wooden vessels to foreign interests. The ships are said to be too large for the Mediterranean trade and not adequate for long sea voyages because of their limited steaming radius. The ships are unsuitable for the lumber trade because of the arrangement of the machinery and boilers, etc. The boats were designed as package freight carriers.

Discussing the plan for transformation of the wooden ships into typical schooner type craft, Inspector Kruse said:

"In the first place, I would shift the engines as far aft as possible. I would put the boilers between decks aft of the engines. The hatches would have to be rearranged and the change from coal to oil as fuel would necessitate the installation of oil tanks aft. One oil tank could be placed in the forepeak. To make the arrangements the house should also be shifted aft.

Would Follow Established Types

"A change of this character would enable a boat of the Ferris type to carry handily 2,000,000 feet of lumber. The ship would be useful also for general cargo purposes.

"In making these alterations I would follow the style of the schooners Nan Smith and the John A. Hooper, well-known Pacific Coast boats. The Nan Smith was built in the East, of steel, for the C. S. Smith Lumber company, and for a period of five years the craft was on the run between San Francisco and Coos Bay. The vessel also made a trip to China and returned with cargo. The schooner John A. Hooper is owned by Sudden & Christenson.

"The cost of making the alterations would not be out of proportion to the ultimate benefits to be derived. The change would save the wood ship situation. Relative to the Ballin type of ship, the change could not be made advantageously after the steel topsides had been fixed, however.

Mr. Kruse expects that his plan will be looked upon with suspicion by some critics; however, he invites the fullest consideration of the idea. He has had years of experience with vessels of the type referred to, and declares that his observations are based on conditions as he has seen them in actual practice.

Shanahan's Great January Clearance Sale Is Sensational

From the fact that profit has not been considered in any department. The order was to close out certain lines, irrespective of goods or descriptions, at surprising low prices. This week extra inducements are offered throughout the store and shrewd buyers will be delighted with the genuine savings given them.

JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE OF SILKS AND DRESS GOODS

In Prices, Designs and Textures That Will Appeal to the Most Exacting Purchasers

Sale of Dress Goods, Suitings Values to \$1.00, Yard 45¢

Sensational clean-up of 2500 yards of dress goods suitings, consisting of cheviots, plaids, serges, cashmere and invisible checks, special for our January Clearance Sale at only 45¢.

Sale of Wool Mixed Dress Serges Values to \$1.50, Yard 95¢

Here you can choose from 22-inch Panama in blue, black, brown and green. Brilliant in navy, black, red and brown, wool mixed checks, also 42-inch wide plaids. These materials are familiar to all women. Excellent quality. A wonderful bargain at our sale price of 95¢.

Sale of Black Taffeta and Fancy Stripe Silks—Values \$2.25, Yard \$1.49

35-inch black taffeta and fancy stripe silks, excellent quality, suitable for suits, coats, costumes, shirt waists and petticoats. Value to \$2.25, specially priced for our January Clearance Sale, yard \$1.49.

Sale of Cotton Plaid Suitings, Special 25¢

Double width, suitable for children's school dresses.

SWEEPSTAKES, GOWNS AND CORSETS

that will meet with your approval in both quality and price

Sale of Children's Sweaters, Reduced to 59¢, \$1.25 and \$1.39

Wonderful values shown in all desirable colors.

Sale of \$7.50 Women's Wool Sweaters Special \$4.95 Each

Colors gray, green and navy. Exceptional values.

SALE REMARKABLE OF MEN'S FURNISHINGS

The Men's Furnishings Department will be the center of buying activity during this sale. Five big features that thrill men and buyers for men will eagerly respond to.

Sale of Men's Fleece Lined Union Suits Special \$1.39

Closed crotch, all sizes.

Sale of Men's Jersey Sweaters, Special 79¢

Gray only, sizes 38 to 46.

Sale of Men's Khaki Flannel Work Shirts, Special \$1.49

This is a grand opportunity to supply your needs in this line. Sizes 14 1/2 to 17.

Sale of Men's Wool Mixed Sox, Pair, 45¢

Black only, all sizes. Exceptional value.

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Laundered cuffs. Sizes 14 to 17.

JANUARY DRIVE OF SHEETS, PILLOW CASES

And Household Necessities at Phenomenal Savings

Sale of Bleached and Unbleached Sheets Special \$1.65 Each

Size 72x90-inch. Excellent quality.

Sale of Pillow Cases, Extra Sp'l, Each 25¢

Size 42x36-inch, good quality. Limit 8 to a customer.

Sale of Cotton Comforter Batts Special 75¢, \$1.00 and \$1.50

An opportunity not to be overlooked. Weight 3 lbs.

Sale of Feather Pillows, While Any Remain, Each \$1.00

Size 17x34. Covered with excellent quality tick.

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# PLAN TO CHANGE SHIPS DECLARED TO BE WORKABLE

## A. E. Kruse, Government Hull Inspector, Would Change Wood Ships to Schooner Type.

### HOUGH TYPE IS EXCEPTED

#### By Shifting Engine and Boilers Aft Carrying Space for Lumber Could Be Provided.

Salvation of the new government wooden ships built to meet a war emergency lies in their transformation into the steam schooner type of vessel, designed to meet the needs of the coastwise lumber trade, according to A. E. Kruse, government inspector of hulls at the Supple & Ballin yard of this city.

Mr. Kruse suggests that by shifting the engines and the Ballin types and other types can be transformed to fill every requirement, declares Mr. Kruse.

Because of the serious situation now facing the lumber trade and in view of the recent cancellation of contracts on 24 keels in the Oregon district alone, Mr. Kruse's suggestions are timely.

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### Zionists to Petition Peace Conference

New York, Jan. 4.—To strengthen the representations which its delegation will make at the peace conference, the Zionist organization of America is about to launch a campaign to secure at least one million signatures to a petition asking the powers to give their official endorsement and aid to the project for the development in Palestine of a Jewish commonwealth under the trusteeship of Great Britain, acting on behalf of a league of nations, if such a league is formed. Stations will be established in the Zionist districts all over the United States, to which all who are in favor of this project will be invited to come and sign this petition, and, in addition each one of the 100,000 enrolled members of the organization will be asked to secure at least 25 signatures to the document.

Joseph Boys Get Furloughs

Joseph, Jan. 4.—Three Joseph soldier

### Peter Kyne to Adopt Little French Boy

New York, Jan. 4.—(U. P.)—Captain Peter B. Kyne, the author, arrived here today from France, and with him came a little French lad, a strayway on the trans-Atlantic, whom Kyne declared he intended to adopt. The boy was found concealed in a bass drum after the ship had put to sea. Investigation revealed that he had fled after his father had been murdered by Germans and his mother carried away by them. Kyne thereupon took the youngster under his wing.

Captain Kyne went "over there" with the California troops.

Taxi Too Expensive For Pig, Says Owner

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—(U. P.)—James Newman, 130 pounds, was taking his 200 pound pig to a slaughter house. The pig had a hunch of what was coming, and Newman was getting the worst of it. He was arrested by Policemen Hennessy and charged with cruelty to animals.

"I can't afford to take a pig to slaughter in a taxi, in spite of the price of pork," Newman told Judge Morris Oppenheim today.

Oppenheim dismissed the case.

\$15 and \$25 sends home new or rebuilt Factory Sales Pianos.

See Schwan Piano Co. Advertisement, Back Page, Sec. 2

NEW TODAY **STAR** 11 TO 11 NOW PLAYING

REGULAR PRICES



# FATTY ARBUCKLE

Brand New De Luxe Edition FATTY'S PLUCKY PUP Taken From One of His Famous Successes

Featuring



PAULINE FREDERICK

IN "OUT OF THE SHADOW"

FOUNDED ON 'The Shadow of the Rope' BY Ernest William Hornung

TO FIND A MAN'S SECRETS ASK THE WOMAN HE LOVES

COME EARLY

Store Open 9 A. M. to 9 P. M. **SHANAHAN'S** Saturday From 9 A. M. to 8 P. M.

NEW LOCATION, Dekum Building Third and Washington Streets

THE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY "THE BIG CASH STORE"

ENTRANCES—206 WASHINGTON STREET AND 125 THIRD STREET

FREE SAMPLE COUPON PYRAMID DRUG COMPANY, Pyramid Building, Marshall, Mich.

Kindly send me a Free sample of Pyramid Pile Treatment, in plain wrapper.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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FREE TRIAL OF PYRAMID PILE TREATMENT IS ONE OF THE GREATEST EVENTS YOU EVER EXPERIENCE.

You are suffering something awful with it—burning, bleeding, protruding piles or hemorrhoids. Now, go over to any drug store and get a 60-cent box of Pyramid Pile Treatment. Relief comes so quick you will jump for joy. Don't doubt, send for a free trial package by mail. We will then refund your money. Don't delay. Take no substitute.