

WHY BIG VOLUME OF DELINQUENCY IN COUNTY TAX ROLL?

Various Views Are Expressed; Thriftlessness One Reason Assigned for Present Failure.

PENALTY IS CONSIDERED

"Wild Cat" Additions That Are Behind in Their Payments Add to General Condition.

The circumstance that approximately \$1,000,000 of Multnomah county's taxes are delinquent and unpaid is not particularly startling to the county's tax collectors at this stage of the tax collection business. It is just part of the trials and tribulations of that office, and was expected.

Last year the total delinquencies amounted upon the date of delinquency to approximately \$975,453, or 8.5 per cent of the total roll. This year there is an increase of \$1,114,331.42 in the amount of taxes levied over that of the year before. The same rate of delinquency would account for \$89,367.70 of the increase in unpaid taxes of the current year. In other words, using last year's

rate of delinquency as the normal rate, the total delinquency should have been \$664,791, in approximate figures, or some \$335,532 less than the actual delinquency as shown by the present condition of the record.

REASONS ARE ADVANCED

No effort has been made to gather in the delinquent taxes as yet, and none will be until in a week or 10 days the work of checking up the roll has been completed and the notices of delinquency are sent out to the property owners and taxpayers as now provided by law. What is interesting is the tax collection officials is the probable reason for the increase in tax delinquency. Various theories are being advanced. In the first place, Multnomah county has a large quantity of "wild cat" property on its tax rolls. Portland real estate additions, such as Kings Heights, that were left stranded some five years or more ago, and upon which the taxes have not been paid during all of that period. This year by year has been standing as an uncollected charge upon the tax rolls, and undoubtedly is in the same condition again this year.

PENALTY IS CONSIDERED

But there are other reasons. One is the taxpayers are beginning to discover the slight penalty now charged by law for delinquency under the amendment of 1915. Prior to that time delinquents faced a penalty of 10 per cent, together with interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum. Under the 1915 amendment, the penalty is but 5 per cent, with interest at the rate of 1 per cent a month covering the period of delinquency.

Added to this fact is the ever present "high cost of living." The small home owner, for the most part, is a man and woman, are confronted with living charges greatly out of proportion to increased earnings, and are having increased difficulty in meeting their tax payments. There is still another reason for increased delinquency, according to the theory of the tax collectors, that of the slump in shipbuilding in Portland. When that industry was at its height hundreds of ship workers purchased homes on the partial payment plan.

These men, or many of them, have been thrown out of their employment and have either left the city in search of other work, or are having difficulty in meeting current expenses and, like others in similar conditions, are leaving their taxes unpaid.

EXTRAVAGANCE IS FACTOR

Probably the most pregnant cause of tax delinquency, aside from "wild cat" additions, non-resident ownership, simple carelessness and plain inability to pay, is the all too prevalent spirit of thriftlessness. Many people who own equities in automobiles and are struggling against the increasing cost of gasoline, and everything, in their effort to keep their monthly payments on the flimsy up to date, are delinquent in the payment of their taxes on the bungalow. And then, too, the habit of "buying it now" usually on credit, irrespective of the increased cost, minus the decreased bank balance of the buyer, is another and very potent reason why the tax collector is "in the red." Very probably, however, like all other bill collectors these days, he will "get his," when he sends his bills out, for then the delinquents will ship some other debt for a month or so, or borrow from Peter to pay Paul, thus helping the merry circle to swing round and round.

Coal Operators and Miners Both Refuse Arbitration Offers

Washington, Oct. 22.—(I. N. S.)—A deadlock appeared to be the net result of the coal conference late this afternoon. Secretary Wilson, in conference with the coal miners, asked them to accept arbitration without reservations and the offer was refused. The operators have also been asked to arbitrate without conditions and they have refused. Both parties will meet later.

PACIFIC BRIDGE CO. DEFENDANT IN SUIT OF SPOKANE COUNTY

Plaintiff Alleges Faulty Work on Roads Built in Washington; \$93,000 Asked.

Suit against the Pacific Bridge company of Portland to recover approximately \$93,000 for alleged breach of contract, instituted by Spokane county, Washington, was opened this morning in Circuit Judge Kavanaugh's court.

The complaint charges that improper workmanship and defective materials were used by the Pacific Bridge company in the construction of roads built by them under contract with Spokane county. Because of the faulty construction the county alleges that they will have to practically rebuild the entire work done by the contracting company.

In all probability as soon as the jury has been selected it will be taken to view the work in litigation.

WOMAN RELEASED ON BAIL

Accused Faces Charge of Bigamy and Larceny by Baillee.

Mrs. Stella De Snell, wife of a prominent architect of Butte, Mont., and under indictment in Multnomah county on charges of bigamy and larceny by baillee was released from the county jail Tuesday by Presiding Judge Gatens under a \$1000 bond furnished by her attorney, John Stevenson. Mrs. De Snell

Woman Meets Bear; He Goes One Way And She Another

Seaside, Oct. 22.—When Mrs. Snooks, Seaside resident, looked up from picking berries near this city, she saw a big bear on the opposite side of a log, looking at her. Neither climbed the log; each disappeared in the opposite direction. The bear was numerous in this vicinity this year. Bill Segar, an old trapper, has caught four this season, taking three in the last 10 days near the slaughter house by the hillside place, about two miles from here. A 300 pound bear was shot recently near Tillamook Head and Fred Shear killed two bears last week.

has been in custody ever since her arrest in Butte over a month ago.

Trial on the bigamy charge, which was set for Tuesday, was postponed on the plea that the defense was not ready to proceed at this time. It is expected that the accused will get up a plea of insanity at the trial. This defense was offered by her in an effort to avoid extradition from Butte to Portland at the time of her arrest. The bigamy charge is brought by Anthony Dolacki, who claims that he married Mrs. De Snell last March after six months' correspondence which began with a matrimonial ad inserted in a local paper by her. He alleges that she deserted him the day following the ceremony, taking \$400 of his money.

DIVORCE MILL IS ACTIVE

Twenty-eight Decrees Signed by Circuit Judge Gatens.

Twenty-eight divorces were granted this morning by Presiding Judge Gatens during default proceedings in the circuit court. Those securing decrees were: Mary Alexander from Robert Alexander; Mabel Wandling from Elmer Wandling; Esther L. Dundas from Robert E. Dundas; Ivy Bilby from James E. Bilby; Margaret J. McKee from Ralph McKee; Emman Shaw from C. Shaw; A. Thurkelson from Campbell Thurkelson; Hazel F. Dodson from William Dodson; Josephine Gilson from Charles H. Gilson; Mary Deone from George Deone; Elizabeth C. Duncan from Oscar Duncan; Everett Miller from Jeanette Miller; W. A. Nesler from Verda Nesler; Helen McNamara from F. M. McNamara; Herman Kalberg from N. M. Kalberg; Alice R. Lewen from Edward Lowen; T. E. Grimm from Jeanette J. Grimm; Mamie Perden from G. L. Perden; Chester Joslin from Mary Joslin; Martha D. Gardner from Jess Gardner; P. C. Willard from Willis Willard; Rose Dunnehan from John Dunnehan; Thelma Deaton from W. T. Deaton; M. Shachan from J. G. Shachan; Julia Thorpe from Alfred E. Thorpe; Selma Thomas from Charles Thomas; Tracy Layne from Mable Layne; Ella James from C. J. James, and Charles E. Jones from Caroline Jones.

Prohibition Law Raised
Suit to enjoin District Attorney Evans and Attorney General Brown from prosecuting dealers using "Bebe syrup" was filed in the circuit court Tuesday by the Bebe company of San Francisco. The manufacturers claim their product does not violate the prohibition law and ask the courts to settle the question.

Soft Drink Vendors Discharged
Twenty soft drink proprietors were released Tuesday afternoon by Municipal Judge Roseman from charges of selling intoxicating liquors, when the arresting officers failed to offer evidence of sales. The men were arrested by the moral squad in a general raid when the police were informed hard cider was being sold in violation of the law.

Findlay Robbed of \$6
Two masked highwaymen stopped E. W. Findley of 128 Grover street on the Boone's Ferry road late Tuesday night and robbed him of \$6, according to a report made to the police. After robbing Findley the highwaymen forced him to drive them to Oswego, where they alighted from the machine and fled.

Governor Allen on Trip
Topeka, Kans., Oct. 22.—(I. N. S.)—Embarking on his first speechmaking tour since his return from France, Governor Allen left Topeka today for a few weeks' political trip in the East. Allen expects to spend two days in Maryland, two or three days in New Jersey, and about three days in Massachusetts.

DIXIE LULLABY

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"Our Musical Floor," the 17th

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Merchandise of Music Only

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In eight lessons—Ladies \$2.50, Gentlemen \$3.00—at De Honey's Beautiful Academy, 23d and Washington. Law Classes for Beginners start Monday and Friday evenings. Advanced classes Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 8 to 11:30. All popular and latest dances taught in 8 three-hour lessons.

LADIES \$3.00, GENTLEMEN \$4
This guarantee term is worth \$15, and if you ever expect to learn dancing you should take advantage of our cut rates. Secure your tickets this week, before prices advance. You can take one or four lessons a week. Tickets are good until used.

The Only School teaching each lesson the entire evening, 8 to 11:30, where you receive the proper amount of practice. The Only School with a separate step room and extra teachers, where backward pupils receive special attention. The Only School with a system where you dance with dozens of different partners. The Only School where gentlemen to lead and lady to follow correctly (the only way to become a practical dancer). The Only School where each pupil receives a printed description of all dances free. We do not teach before dancing parties begin, or give the one-hour lessons, and conscientiously believe one lesson from us is worth six in the average school. This method backward pupils will not become embarrassed and is sure to learn. You will enjoy yourself, as the social feature alone is worth double the price.

PRIVATE LESSONS AT ALL HOURS.
If you desire the most simple ballroom dance or most beautiful ballroom dance, call at our school. Phone Main 7522, afternoons or evenings.

SALEM ARBITRATORS TO DETERMINE RIGHT OF MEN TO ORGANIZE

Fifteen Employees of Spaulding Lumber Company Are Said to Have Been Discharged.

Salem, Oct. 22.—The right of employees of the Charles K. Spaulding Lumber company of this city to organize as a part of the Timber Workers' union has been placed before the local arbitration board for consideration and the decision of that body will be final, it was understood here this morning.

As a result of activities of union organizers 15 employees, who had joined the union, are said to have been told to quit up to Tuesday night, although rumors here place the number of those who have lost their places at the mill at 30.

An effort to organize a chapter of the

Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen here some time ago was frustrated when Spaulding himself refused to affiliate with that organization. Spaulding asserts that he suspects that the organization, which is in process of formation, is instigated by I. W. W. R. Holman of Portland, organizer for the International Timbermen's union, said that the men are making no demands of any nature, but that they are forming a unit of the union. About 70 men have already joined the local organization, he said. The workers say that Spaulding's charge of I. W. W. backing is without foundation.

Garbage Stuffed in Woman's Mouth to Shut Off Screams

Shortly after dark Tuesday evening the police received an emergency call from the home of Louis Rosenblatt, 503 Twenty-first street, where the maid, Miss Gertrude Johnson, had been attacked by an unidentified man. Miss Johnson was carrying a pan of garbage out the back door when she was knocked over the head with a piece of wood, knocked down on the porch and her mouth stuffed with garbage. Motor-

Big, Grimy Hand On Window Pane Startles Woman

The police are looking for a big, grimy hand. If yours is in this class, better have it camouflaged. Mrs. D. Buckman of 140 Pendleton street told Officer Olson Tuesday night that a hand answering this general description had made its appearance on her window pane two successive nights. Fearing that someone might be seeking to do her violence, Mrs. Buckman reported the incident.

Cycle Officers Scott and Norne say the man held Miss Johnson down for about 10 minutes. About two weeks ago the woman says she was attacked in a similar manner. Miss Johnson declared she could identify her assailant. Two detectives have been assigned to the case.

Florists Close Shop Sundays

Portland florists hereafter will close shop Sundays. The Portland Floral society Tuesday night, in a meeting at Maecia Temple, decided itself unfavorable to existing long hours in the floral trade. Later an effort may be made to shorten Saturday night hours.

VICTROLA

The instrument specially made to play Victrola Records by these famous artists

Alda	Destinn	Journet	Ruffo
Bori	Eames	Kreisler	Sammarco
Braslaw	Elman	Kubelik	Schumann-Heink
Calvé	Farrar	Martinelli	Scotti
Caruso	Galli-Curci	McCormack	Sembrich
Clement	Garrison	Melba	Tetrazzini
Cortot	Gluck	Murphy	Werrenrath
Culp	Hamlin	Paderewski	Whitehill
De Gogorza	Heifetz	Patti	Witherspoon
De Luca	Homer	Powell	Zimbalist

If you want to hear these artists exactly as they wish you to hear them, you must play their Victrola Records on the Victrola

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SHOW IN PORTLAND THIS WEEK—

WE KNOW IT
IS THE BEST

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WHAT EVERY-
ONE TELLS US
WHO HAS
SEEN IT—AND
THERE ARE
THOUSANDS
SEEING IT
EVERYDAY.

HAVE YOU?

MURTAGH
AND OUR
\$50,000 ORGAN

THE LIBERTY
DIGEST OF
NEWS OF THE
WORLD

CARTOON
COMEDY



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CHARLES RAY

in
"THE EGG CRATE
WALLOP"

He can lift your
woes, too—when
you get up to
Alf's place with
Charlie Murray
and the girls.

"UP IN
ALF'S PLACE"
is the latest
Mack Sennett
JOYJAG!

Also
"Six
Feet
Four"

the big all-
American
drama chock
full of pep and
personality.

Oh, yes, we still think we
have the best show in
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