

# NO ALTERNATIVE MEASURE WILL BE PUT ON BALLOT

### Possible Confusion Among Voters and Certain Questions Regarding Legal Power Change Plans,

The Port of Portland commission will not submit an alternative measure to its general port bill on the November ballot. Such was the conclusion of the port commission at a special meeting Saturday morning.

The alternative measure had been suggested as a means of providing the commission with funds for next year's channel work in the event of the defeat of the general port measure, to which opposition has developed because of its proposals for a bonded debt of \$16,500,000, the acquisition of the city's docks and terminals in exchange for \$10,500,000 of additional tax on the city's property, the proposed merging of the port and dock commissions, and the purchase of some 1560 acres of land at a cost of several million dollars for development as industrial sites and railroad yards.

### MULKEY OPINION FAVORABLE

Ex-Senator Frederick W. Mulkey, former chairman of the commission of public works, had given an opinion in favor of the measure, and that to do so is desirable in view of the commission's admission that it will have for dredging in the channel next year only \$38,000 if the "port omnibus bill" fails.

The reasons assigned by the commission for declining to offer the alternative measure are that the voters would be confused in mind and that certain questions as to the legal power of the commission to act are in doubt. Its statement follows: "The suggestion has been made to the port that as a possible additional safeguard it would be wise to submit to the voters of the port at the coming November election a measure alternative to the consolidation bill, for the purpose of providing funds by special levy. It is suggested by such alternative measure to confer upon the port authority to raise by direct levy a sum exceeding \$1,000,000 required to carry on the current work of the port for next year, and which the port has expected to provide under the consolidation bill."

### CHARTER REQUIREMENTS

It must be borne in mind that the present charter of the port limits its taxing power to 2-3/4ths of 1 per cent, which, on the basis of present assessed values, would produce about \$180,000 if the port had authority to impose the full amount of this levy. However, by reason of the 6 per cent constitutional limitation the port is now limited to a tax of \$188,000, and under the plan proposed it would be impossible, even with the consent of the voters of the port, in the exercise of the taxing power conferred by the port's charter, to raise more than \$490,000, which obviously would fall short of the port's requirements. It is true that two suggestions have been made to relieve this difficulty, both

of which involve the submission of alternative measures. One suggestion is based upon the provisions of chapter 319 of the General Laws of Oregon for 1919, and it is maintained that the act authorizes the port to increase its tax levy above 2-3/4ths of 1 per cent. Reference to this act, however, discloses that it had to do merely with the machinery of elections and does not undertake to confer or increase the taxing power. The title of the act refers solely to elections, and it appears to be clearly in violation of sections 20 and 22 of the article IV of the constitution, which requires the subject matter of an act to be expressed in its title and require all amendments to be set out at length in the body of an act.

### CONFUSION FORESEEN

It has also been suggested that the port having been invested with the same taxing power as that enjoyed by ports organized under the general laws, and that its limit of taxation for general purposes has been increased from 2-3/4ths of one per cent to one (1) per cent, there are grave doubts as to whether the power exists since the act purporting to make that grant. In the first place, there is grave doubt as to whether the power exists since the act purporting to make that grant. In the first place, there is grave doubt as to whether the power exists since the act purporting to make that grant. In the first place, there is grave doubt as to whether the power exists since the act purporting to make that grant.

### COULD A WAIT LEGISLATIVE

It would be within the power of the port to suspend its effort to provide additional funds until the convening of the legislature in general session, but any such legislation would be subject to referendum and no action could be taken until May of next year and funds so provided would not be available for use.

### Extension Courses In U. of O. Will Begin 3 Classes

Extension courses of the University of Oregon will open Monday, with classes meeting weekly at Central library, First Presbyterian church house and Lincoln high school. In all Portland classes of the extension division, university credit is granted toward the A. B. degree.

Courses offered include instruction in architecture, art, chemistry, commerce, foreign trade, law, salesmanship, economics, education, English, history, modern languages, Spanish, mathematics, music, philosophy, psychology, public health, public speaking, social hygiene, sociology, social work and public health in general.

F. M. Warrington is in charge of the foreign trade department, which includes courses in foreign trade, physical geography, political trade geography, and French and Spanish for practical affairs. The social service courses will be carried on in cooperation with the public welfare bureau. Registration for extension work should take place at the courthouse, room 652.

# ANTI-JAPANESE PROPOSALS MEET VETS' APPROVAL

### John W. Jones, New National Vice Commander, Returns, and Tells of Eastern Meeting.

Drastic anti-Japanese resolutions meet with favor at the convention of Veterans of Foreign Wars, which adjourned recently at Washington, D. C., according to information brought to Portland Saturday by John W. Jones and Dr. J. C. Walsh. Jones was elected national vice commander, an honor which was not anticipated by the forces from Oregon this year. Jones said that the 5000 delegates or alternates at the convention voted a man in favor of the anti-Japanese resolutions. Delegates from eastern states are said to have been as enthusiastic over the movement as men from the West.

Jones will resign his position as commander of Over the Top post of Portland and devote all his spare time to organizing new posts throughout Oregon. His position here will go to Senior Vice Commander Monte C. Walton. As there is no salary connected with the national position, Jones will retain his position in the city health bureau.

### Hokusai Prints to Feature Opening of Exhibition in Art

The first exhibition of the winter season at the Portland Art association will be of color prints by the famous Japanese draftsman, painter and print-maker, Hokusai. The collection is hung in the galleries for inspection by any persons who are interested in the development and preservation of the Japanese art print. Fifteen of the prints shown in the collection now on display are chosen from the little known "Hundred Poems" series; eight from the "Bridges" and five from the "Waterfalls" series.

# Mulkey Discusses Port Bill Says Three-Mill Tax Invalid

Not only does ex-Senator Frederick W. Mulkey, former chairman of the dock commission, believe that the Port of Portland commission can submit to the voters of the port district an alternate measure to the proposed port consolidation bill, but he believes that there are questions if the 3 mill tax provision of the bill is constitutional.

### BONDING POWER LARGE

"Under section 1 of the measure the Port of Portland would be empowered to issue bonds not exceeding 5 per cent of the assessed value for state and county purposes of all property within the limits of the said Port of Portland for the purpose of carrying into effect all or any of the powers granted to the port by the measure," the bill provides. "The amount of the port's bonded indebtedness and interest thereon, in excess of 6 per cent of the total level of the port, shall be paid for by it in the year immediately preceding for purposes other than the payment of bonded indebtedness or interest thereon, unless authorized by a majority of the legal voters sought to be taxed."

### EXCEPTION NOT APPLICABLE

"The tax limitation amendment contains an exception concerning the taxing powers of a newly created taxing district which is not to be considered under the pending measure, for the reason that it does not attempt to create a new taxing district, but retains the charter of the existing Port of Portland and acts only upon it by amendment. It therefore follows that the taxing powers of the port under the pending measure could be enlarged only by a new tax charge and not by a general purpose of the present tax of the port for general purposes, for the reason that the measure contains no provision for obtaining an expression of opinion of legal voters of the port as to the authority to levy a tax of three-tenths of 1 per cent for general purposes.

### ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY

"By section 3 of the measure, the board of commissioners of the port would be the present membership unless prior to January 1, 1922, the port purchased all or any substantial portion of the dock system of the City of Portland. The result of this discretion would be that if the port commissioners took over all the dock property of the City of Portland in addition to the bonding power of \$16,371,748.50, it could issue or assume bonds to the full value of the dock property purchased which is supposed to be \$10,500,000. It would be said, therefore, that the maximum bonding power of the port would be in the neighborhood of \$27,500,000, but that \$10,500,000 thereof would be existing or authorized obligations of the City of Portland except as to the taxable property of the Port of Portland outside of the City of Portland, where the city bond would fall as a new lien and as additional taxation.

### TAXING POWER INCREASED

"By section 1 of the measure the port is authorized and empowered to assess, levy and collect taxes on the property within the port assessable for general purposes to such amounts as shall be required, from year to year, to pay interest and principal on its bonds; or bonds assumed by it as the purchase price of any stock property of the City of Portland owned by it. And, in addition, to assess, levy and collect taxes upon all property within the port, assessable for state and county purposes, to an amount not exceeding

# GLUES IN DENTON CASE BAFFLING

### Revenge or Jealousy May Have Been Motive; Mysterious Spanish Beauty Sought.

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 25.—(U. P.)—With police and private detectives busily following half a dozen "leads," the murder of Jacob C. Denton, whose body was found entombed in the basement of his home here Thursday, tonight remained a baffling mystery.

### WOMAN DENIES REPORT

Mrs. Peete, now living in Denver, has volunteered to come to Los Angeles to aid in the police investigation. She denied having hired Crowhurst to close the "death chamber," according to Denver police.

### DEATH CAUSE UNDECIDED

The cause of death was still undetermined today. No external marks of violence were found on Denton's body. Physicians said no mark of a wound was found on his right arm, although one story was that Denton had lost an arm through amputation. More than one person, was involved

in the killing, which was believed to have been committed in an upper room of the fashionable residence in an exclusive residential district, police believe. Evidence that his body was carried to the basement after the killing was in the possession of detectives.

### SEARCH FOR A "MYSTERIOUS SPANISH WOMAN"

Search for a "mysterious Spanish woman," said to have visited frequently in the basement after the killing, was continued today, police said.

### DOUBLY MURDERED

"They have doubly murdered my former husband," Mrs. Sarah Denton, the former wife, insisted. "Both his life and his reputation have been taken from him."

### WILL IS CITED

Included in what Avery asserted was proof of his theory was a will dated May 15, which, Avery declared, was not properly witnessed and which he charged was a forgery. This will, according to Avery, was given to him by a woman. It failed to mention certain valuable property Denton owned, Avery claimed, and on the other hand disposed of property which Denton did not own. No provision for \$35,000 in Liberty bonds, held by Denton, was contained in the will. The will was dated May 15. Denton was last seen in Los Angeles June 2.

might have been murdered away from the "mystery house," and the body brought back there and buried, was advanced tonight by Mrs. R. C. Peete, former tenant of the Denton residence, after the disappearance of Denton. She left Los Angeles about six weeks ago and came to Denver.

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# PLANE CRASHES; 3 WOMEN KILLED

### Miss Isolada Traff, Britain's Most Skillful Woman Pilot, is One of Victims.

London, Sept. 25.—(U. P.)—Four passengers—three of them women—and the pilot were killed near Heyes, Middlesex, today in the crashing of a 10-passenger aero bus. A little girl passenger escaped death, but both her legs were broken.

# Ice Cream Vendor Devotes Space to Portland Pictures

An extended article, replete with illustrations on "Portland, Oregon," is contained in the September number on the Ice Cream Review, written by S. B. Vincent of the Portland Chamber of Commerce.

# Baby and Woman Are Injured When Car Strikes Auto

Salem, Or., Sept. 25.—Mrs. Bert Russell of 445 1/2 Couch street, Portland, suffered general bruising about the body, her six-month-old baby was badly bruised and Mrs. Ed. Tallman of 778 Bellevue avenue, Salem, was severely shaken up and bruised when the automobile in which they were riding was struck by a street car at State and Cottage streets Saturday night.

# MONTH-END SHOE SALE

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