

CORRECTIVE TAX MEASURES URGED IN LEAGUE REPORT

State Budget Law Recommended, And Merger of Government Units in Multnomah Included.

That there are 80 tax levying agencies in Multnomah county, that a state budget law should be adopted by the next legislature, that a committee of 10 to 25 should be appointed to study means of consolidating units of government in Multnomah county as a means of promoting efficiency and economy, and that this county should be protected from excessive tax levies imposed by the legislature, are outstanding assertions and recommendations in a report of the Taxpayers' league, made public Saturday.

The report calls attention to the fact that, with a 42 mill rate for 1920, the total tax load in Portland has increased 118.63 per cent in 10 years, while in the same period the population has increased but 24.65 per cent. The per capita increase in taxes is placed at 75.34 per cent. This includes, of course, taxes levied for city, school, county and state purposes.

There are three other important tables in the report, which show the taxation situation of Multnomah county, school district No. 1 and the city of Portland, in some detail:

TABLE SHOWS FACTS
This general table reads as follows:

1910	1920	Per cent increase	
Population	207,214	258,288	12.5
Total taxes	\$6,028,853	\$13,188,000	118.63
Taxes per capita	29.12	63.94	219.24

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COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH

1910	1920	Per cent increase	
Population	226,261	275,928	21.94
Asses'd valuation	\$301,825,649	\$336,619,600	11.62
Rate (mills)	21.21	35.62	67.94
Total taxes levied	6,401,427	12,007,732	87.58
Taxes per capita	28.29	43.52	53.82

The taxes levied on the 1919 valuation include the levies for interest and maintenance in the water and drainage districts.

Portland property bore nearly 94 per cent of the taxes levied on the 1919 roll and nearly 96 per cent of the taxes levied on the 1919 roll.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

1910	1919	Per cent increase	
Asses'd valuation	\$277,001,985	\$318,783,285	13.75
Rate in mills	6.30	8.60	36.51
Levy in dollars	1,748,892	2,715,736	54.13

In 1917 the legislature limited the levy of the school district to 6 mills, excluding bonded debt and outstanding warrants, and in 1919 it raised the limit to 6.5 mills, with the same exceptions as in the 1917 act.

CITY OF PORTLAND

1910	1920	Per cent increase	
Assessed value, real estate and public service companies	\$230,023,095.00	\$254,110,540.00	10.74
Assessed value, other property	4,243,870.00	5,851,245.00	37.97
Total assessment	274,266,965.00	312,671,785.00	14.00

Ratio of real estate and public service to total assessment

City levy in mills	83.87	81.27	Decrease
City levy in dollars	1,645,508.00	4,377,405.00	163.98
City taxes per capita	7.94	15.93	113.17
Total levy in city	6,033,853.02	11,506,321.00	92.27
Total taxes per capita	29.12	44.55	52.98
City employees, January 1	1,225	1,913	56.18
Total annual salaries	\$ 1,896,698.18	\$ 3,280,022.81	139.99

CITY SALARIES GIVEN
October 1, 1920, number of city employees, 2221; salaries paid for month of September, \$289,296.07.

City of Portland levy for 1920 includes the dock commission.

Prohibition and other causes have lowered the receipts to the city from other sources than taxation from \$637,751.20 in 1910 to \$182,455.75 in 1919.

The number of policemen in 1910 was 199, and in 1920 it was 418, an increase of 110.05 per cent. The cost of the police department in 1910 was \$260,964.24, and the estimate for 1920 is \$841,725.41, an increase of 222.54 per cent.

In 1910 the fire department had 291 men, and all the apparatus was horse-drawn. In 1920 there were 429 men, with motor-drawn apparatus, an increase in the personnel of 47.42 per cent. In 1910 the cost of operating the fire department was \$457,325.87, while the estimate for 1920 is \$991,591.04, an increase of 116.82 per cent. The adoption of the double platoon systems by the voters within the period under review is responsible for much of the increase in the personnel and cost of operation of the fire department.

PARK INCREASE SHOWN
In 1910 the number of acres in parks under the direction of the park department was 680.56; in 1920, estimated, 1560. The number of employes in the park department is 125.

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ELKS' SHOW NEAR READY



Four members of the cast of "The Mandarin," the Christmas benefit show to be produced November 23 and 24 by the Elks club. In the upper frame are, left, Miss Olga Ruff, and right, Miss Agnes Davies. Below—Lillian Holman and Mrs. Fred L. Olson.

The report which was prepared by a committee consisting of Henry E. Reed, Henry L. Corbett and Forrest S. Fisher, recommends:

Repeal of the uniform county accounting law of 1913, which was repealed by the legislature in 1915.

Enactment of a competent budget law, applicable to all units of government.

Delegation of adequate power to the tax supervising and conservation commission.

Serious consideration of city, county and school district consolidation by a committee of 10 to 25 persons.

Appointment of a committee to draft additional tax legislation having for a purpose the distribution of taxes in accordance with ability to pay.

Corrective legislation to prevent imposition of excessive tax levies by the legislature upon Multnomah county.

Don't Remember
Chicago, Nov. 20.—(I. N. S.)—Two men in the county hospital are expected to die from stab wounds that followed an argument over some subject so unimportant the victims do not remember what it was. They are William McNab, 40, and George Bain, 40.

pal and on gross bonded debt amounts to \$382.13 a day in this county; and the report adds:

The requirements for principal and interest alone in 1920 were \$86,000 more than was levied for all purposes of government in Multnomah county in 1920.

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ARNO DOSCH TO TALK ON RUSSIA

Proceeds of Lecture of Famous Correspondent to Go Toward Statue for Pioneer.

The Oregon Historical society will have a fund with which to erect statue to the Oregon pioneer, F. X. Matthieu, out of the proceeds of the lecture on "Russia and the Bolsheviks," which Arno Dosch-Fleuret will deliver Friday evening, November 26, at the First Presbyterian church house, Thirteenth and Alder streets.

The basis of the memorial was made by the late Roswell Dosch, the speaker's brother, which the Dosch family is presenting to the historical society. The speaker, who is visiting his parents, Colonel and Mrs. H. E. Dosch, has taken this form of showing his interest in the Oregon pioneer, and will be introduced by Frederick V. Holman, president of the Oregon Historical society.

He is on the staff of the New York World, and is that paper's correspondent in Eastern Europe. He spent a full year under the Bolshevik power in Russia, and has been in various parts of the old Russian empire for the last four years. He spent a few months in Ireland this summer, however, and may have something to say on the Irish question. Tickets on sale at Sherman, Clay & Co. and at Meier & Frank's.

Friendship Council Of University Meet To Boost Y. M. C. A.

University of Oregon, Eugene, Nov. 20.—The friendly council, consisting of representatives from every men's organization on the campus, met Tuesday

WRITER WHO SPENT FULL YEAR WITH BOLSHEVIKI



Arno Dosch-Fleuret

night and discussed plans of the Y. M. C. A. executive committee.

The big feature as planned thus far is the procuring of four well-known men to speak during the months of January and February. These men are William M. Sweet, president of a large Denver bonding concern; Sherwood Eddy, who has just returned from Europe and is prepared to give some interesting side lights upon the political situation over there; Fred B. Smith, vice president of the Johns-Manville company, and Norman Coleman, former president of Reed college.

A number of speakers, representing various organizations, such as the Cosmopolitan club and the Workingmen's club, spoke. A Thanksgiving party is planned for

the near future and other activities were discussed.

Roy Yeach was elected president, Art Campbell, vice president, and Elmo Madden, secretary.

6 Applications for Water Rights Are Filed With State

Salem, Nov. 20.—Ray W. Angell of Boyd has filed with the state engineer's office an application covering the appropriation of water from Eight Mile creek for the irrigation of a small tract of land and for domestic and stock use. Other applications for water rights have been as follows:

By Grover C. Curtis of Willows, for water from Willow creek for domestic use and the irrigation of a small tract in Gilliam county.

By John Jackson of Glendale, for water from Cow creek for the irrigation of 60 acres in Douglas county.

By John Ohman of Lakeview, for water from Hay creek for the irrigation

of 65 acres in Lake county.

By William C. Faxton of Madras, for water from the Deschutes river for the irrigation of a small tract in Jefferson county.

By James Johns of Pendleton, covering the right to construct a reservoir on Travillion Springs creek for the storage of water for irrigation of land in Umatilla county.



Nerves and Dentistry

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