

BOOST IN TAXES OF PUBLIC SERVICE FIRMS REQUESTED

Taxation of public service corporations is more equal proportion to their claimed value when before the state public service commission on rate adjustment matters is advocated by the city council of St. Helens.

"It appears to the management of this city," says the statement, "that while the price of everything is being reduced—except taxes and public service rates—that the taxes of private corporations and persons might be very materially reduced if the assessment upon public service corporations were proportionately equal to or made upon the same basis as that of other property."

TAX FAVOR CLAIMED "A superficial examination only is necessary to bring one to the conclusion that the public service corporations are very greatly favored in this tax game, and we are asking your cooperation, to be exercised in your own way, in order to obtain an equal adjustment."

"Railroad rates and telephone rates are very high, in fact, are the only things that do not indicate a returning to normalcy in these, then, any reason why these corporations should not pay their just portion of the cost of government?"

The resolutions adopted by the St. Helens city council, which are being sent to the state tax commission and to each municipality in the state, set forth:

"Whereas it appears from the records of the assessment of Columbia county, Oregon, for the year 1929, that the property within said county, exclusive of that owned and held by the public service corporations, is assessed at nearly its true and actual cash value; and

"Whereas it appears from the statement issued by the state tax commission of Oregon that the property of the public service corporations within Columbia county is assessed for the year 1929 as follows:

FIGURES SUBMITTED "Railroads, \$2,972,860; telegraph companies, \$4,349,33; telephone companies, \$61,462, but that the actual sums upon which the tax levy is made are as follows, to-wit:

"Railroads, \$1,812,444.60; telegraph companies, \$2,790,41; telephone companies, \$27,458.22, and

"Whereas it appears from the foregoing quotations from said statement issued by said state tax commission, that the assessment of the property of the public service corporations of said county is not greater than 25 per cent of the actual cash value of such property; and that the sum upon which the actual tax levy is made does not exceed 20 per cent of such actual cash value, and probably not that much, and

"Whereas it appears that from the evidence adduced in the late telephone hearing in Portland, that the rate base value of the telephone company's property alone in the state of Oregon, for the year 1929, was \$18,810, and that the tax for said year against said company covering all the counties, was actually levied upon the base of \$5,761,623.73.

REDUCTIONS CITED "And whereas there has been a gradual reduction in the assessment of the property of said public service corporations for the past three years, and

"Whereas the discrimination in favor of the public service corporations and against the other industries and taxing individuals is too palpable to be longer ignored or excused, now therefore be it

Resolved, by the city of St. Helens, Columbia county, state of Oregon, that the state tax commission of Oregon be and it hereby is requested to so raise and adjust the assessment on the property of the various public service corporations of the state that they shall be required to pay a tax equal to those paid by the various other industries and individuals of said county."

STATE'S BACK AGAINST WALL IN AGEE COUP

(Continued From Page One) The statement that he had owned a white sailor hat, such as might have been mistaken for a white mask referred to by Mrs. Agee. But Klecker declared that he had given the hat to his brother at Los Angeles before the date of the murder here.

When Klecker was married at Los Angeles recently, he testified, he thought that he was the one charged with Agee's murder, as well as being held as a material witness.

Mrs. Nellie Young, neighbor and frequent companion of Mrs. Agee, returned to the stand this morning, revived after the fainting spell that overcame her Wednesday night.

POOR WITNESS She proved a poor witness for the state, offering no new evidence, except to affirm that she saw nothing wrong with Mrs. Agee's conduct and did not observe Klecker's alleged devoted attentions to the woman.

"Did you ever see this coat before, with the front plastered with blood?" Klecker asked.

"No," the witness answered, in his almost inaudible voice.

RELATIONS ADMITTED Klecker admitted that both before and after the murder he had told people that he had had improper relations with Mrs. Agee. "More than a dozen, but less than 25 people in the Henry building," he confessed he had told.

"And was that not to shift suspicion of the murder from yourself?" Collier demanded.

"No," said the witness.

Klecker said that on the night of the murder he played in Campbell's band until 10 o'clock, that he then went to the Henry building, that he changed his clothes and finally home. "He was living with his sister at the time and she was in Oregon City that night," he said. He stated that he was ready for bed at 11:30 o'clock. He had no witnesses to testify as to his movements.

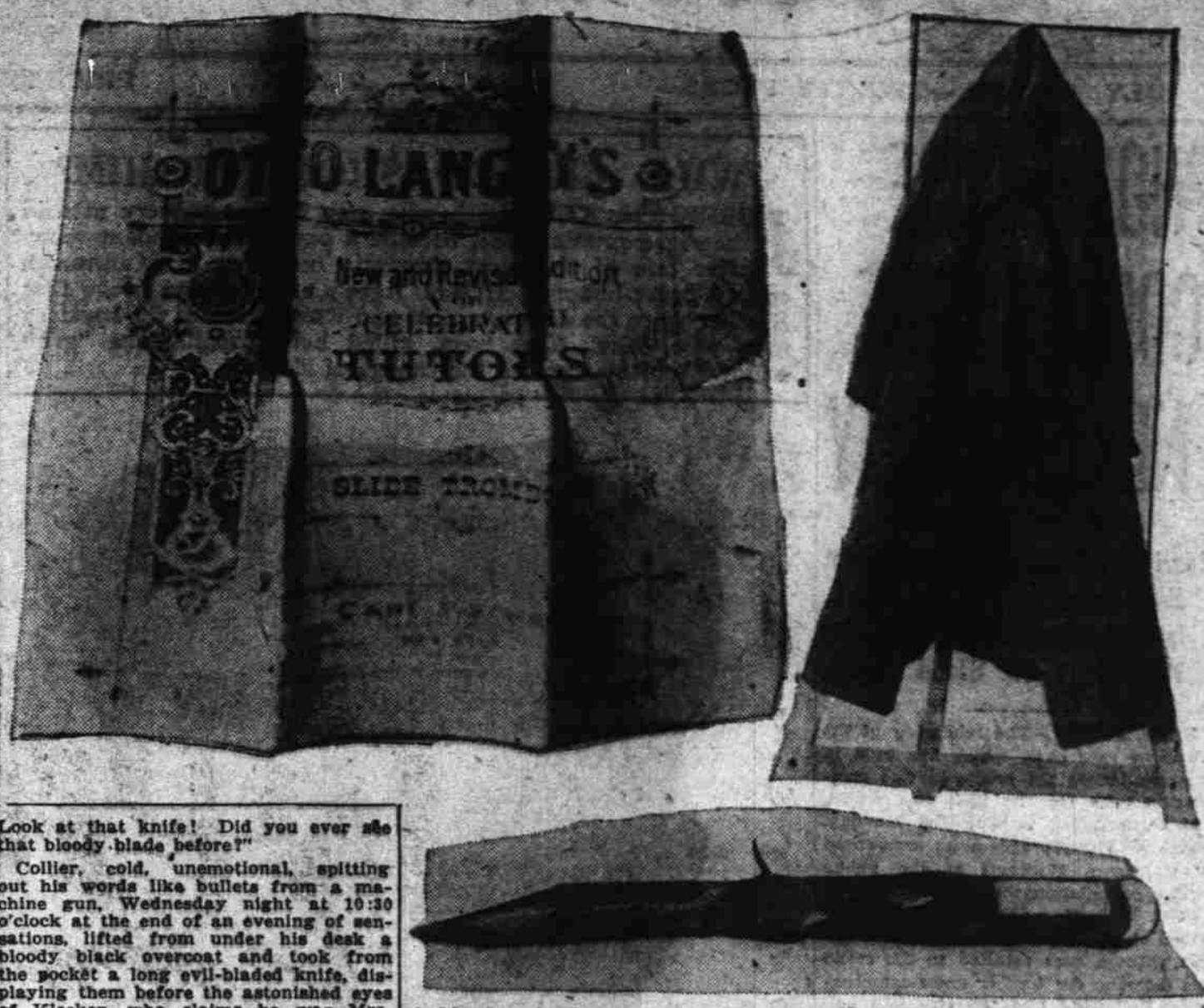
Before flashing the overcoat, Collier produced two torn sheets of music, such as used for teaching the rudiments, and asked him to identify them.

SHEET MUSIC IDENTIFIED Klecker said he believed they were Mrs. Agee's music sheets. They were similar as far as publishers and contents were concerned, and seemed to have the same tears.

When the overcoat was shown, Collier said the bloody knife and the music sheets were taken from the same pocket. After the denouncement, the state took the position that there were no positive marks of identification on the music and that they might have been different sheets.

Klecker said that familiarity developed between him and Mrs. Agee while he was giving her lessons. She "leaned up against" him one day, he said. They

WEIRD EXHIBIT IN AGEE MURDER TRIAL



A blood-stained overcoat and a keen-edged blade may be the cloak and tool of the slayer of Harry Agee, say barristers who are seeking to shift the toll of crime from a woman's shoulders to those of her admirer and music teacher. He is not certain that the crumpled sheets of a musical composition pictured here did not come from Mrs. Agee's music roll, though they were found in the pocket of the stained coat.

Look at that knife! Did you ever see that bloody blade before?" Collier, cold, unemotional, spitting out his words like bullets from a machine gun, Wednesday night at 10:30 o'clock at the end of an evening of sensational, lifted from under his desk a bloody black overcoat and from the pocket a long evil-bladed knife, displaying them before the astonished eyes of Klecker, who claims he was Mrs. Agee's lover and who was on the stand in Circuit Judge Morrow's court as the state's star witness.

KNIFE IS EXHIBITED Collier stepped in front of the witness stand with the overcoat in his left hand, while with the right he drew the knife, back and forth in front of the witness' eyes.

Klecker, beads of perspiration standing out on his forehead and cheeks, did not budge in his chair. He sat as one half hypnotized. Collier's eyes bored into his.

There was hardly a breath drawn in the courtroom during a long minute. Audiences, jurors and attorneys momentarily expected the witness to collapse at this sudden denouncement. But he did not.

Then Collier shouted: "Take it in your hand! Feel of it! Look at it! Where did you last see this overcoat, that had in its pocket this bloody knife with claims sheet that you have just said was Mrs. Agee's?"

Klecker took the knife and looked at it. "I don't know anything about it," he said, so low that he could be heard only a few feet away.

SPECTATORS ARE AMAZED "That's all," Collier snapped, and turned back to his desk. Startled, bewildered, the witnesses of one of the most amazing scenes that was ever enacted in a courtroom sank back in their seats.

Joseph L. Hammerly and Sam Pierce, deputy district attorneys handling the case, looked at each other from their seats. They had not known of the discovery of the articles.

"Try the coat on," they commanded. Klecker got down from the stand while they tried the coat on him. It was snug, but he could button it. With his bloody front, it plainly he stepped in front of the jury.

The coat with the knife and the music sheet in the pocket were found at the scene of the murder. Collier did not divulge where they were found, but promised to connect them up later. It is very evident that the defense suspects Klecker killed Agee because Mrs. Agee would have nothing to do with him, thinking that if he got the man out of the way he would have revenge and perhaps the woman.

Klecker, when called to the stand an hour before had testified under direct examination of the state that he had been giving Mrs. Agee trombone lessons for three months previous to the murder and that twice during the week before the tragedy he had been intimate with her.

DEFENSE ANGLE SEEN The defense made it clear that it contended Klecker was the man with the black overcoat and white mask that Mrs. Agee said she saw fleeing through the front of the house just after she leaped over her husband's body, when she was awakened by his struggles in bed.

Klecker said he was 30 years old, lived at 255 Eleventh street, that he was at present a janitor in the Henry building besides giving music lessons. He kept no job more than a few weeks at a time for many years, he admitted. He served 10 months in the navy during the war. He has been in Portland off and on for two years.

"I am married, I married a girl in Los Angeles July 1, this month," Klecker said.

"You were at that time out on bail as a material witness in this case, were you not?" Collier asked. "And is it not a fact that you married this girl," he added, "in order to shift from you suspicion of having murdered Harry Agee?"

"No," the witness answered, in his almost inaudible voice.

RELATIONS ADMITTED Klecker admitted that both before and after the murder he had told people that he had had improper relations with Mrs. Agee. "More than a dozen, but less than 25 people in the Henry building," he confessed he had told.

"And was that not to shift suspicion of the murder from yourself?" Collier demanded.

"No," said the witness.

Klecker said that on the night of the murder he played in Campbell's band until 10 o'clock, that he then went to the Henry building, that he changed his clothes and finally home. "He was living with his sister at the time and she was in Oregon City that night," he said. He stated that he was ready for bed at 11:30 o'clock. He had no witnesses to testify as to his movements.

Before flashing the overcoat, Collier produced two torn sheets of music, such as used for teaching the rudiments, and asked him to identify them.

TWO MILLION IN BONDS ARE SOLD BY COMMISSION

Bids were opened today by the state highway commission for an issue of bonds to the amount of \$2,000,000 also for the improvement of 60 miles of highway, including the pavement of an eight mile section of the Pacific highway in Lincoln county. The issue was sold this afternoon to John E. Price & Co. and E. H. Rollins & Co. for \$2,002,094.

The bonds the best bid was that of John E. Price who offered \$1,051,677 per thousand, for serial bonds bearing 5 1/2 per cent interest, or a total of \$2,002,094 for the entire lot.

The next best bid was that of White Wells & Co. who bid \$2,002,300. The price offered is a shade better than that obtained last month by the commission, reflecting an improvement in the money market.

In the matter of the location of the Resburg-Los Day highway the commission decided to adopt what is known as the Brookway connection with the Pacific highway on condition that Douglas county build a good road to Dillard, the nearest bridge point.

Bids were opened on the following road projects: Chickamaug county, paving 6000 of Troy creek, Sucker creek and Molalla river bridges.

Clatsop county—Grading and macadamizing four miles. Moles crossing—Stimpson section—Grading and macadamizing 17 miles Allen Ranch-Klamath county line section The Dalles-California highway.

Lake county—Grading 17 miles Chandler creek-Chewaman Narrows section. Lakeview—Bond road and approaches to Paisley bridge point.

Lincoln county—Grading 16.6 miles Chitwood-Toledo section Newport-Garvallis highway.

Union county—Paving 7.3 miles Shedd-Halsey section Pacific highway. Tillamook county—Graveling 1.5 miles Wilson-Riverdale section east highway. Wheeler county—Grading and macadamizing 2.7 miles Cummings Hill-Fossil section John Day highway.

Union county—Concrete span over Wolf creek. Clatsop county—Grading and paving Wallawa-Lestone section La Grande-Joseph highway seven trestle spans over the river.

Washington county—Repairs to bridge Forest Grove-Gaston section.

Delegation of Fifty Of Salvation Army Leaves for Astoria

In command of Brigadier Christopher, in charge of the Scandinavian work of the Salvation Army in the Northwest, 50 officers of the corps and the band from Seattle headquarters, left for Astoria Thursday morning on the steamer Georgiana to attend the summer conference of the English branch and Brigadier Muthhead of the International headquarters in London were guests.

Colonel W. Barnet Turner of San Francisco will be the principal speaker at the conference. The summer conference of the western division, Brigadier Hay of the English branch and Brigadier Muthhead of the International headquarters in London were guests.

K. of U. Delegates And Supreme Knight Pay Portland Visit

A party of 60 delegates to the supreme convention of the Knights of Columbus, headed by James A. Flaherty, supreme knight, is being entertained today by local members with a trip on the Columbia river highway.

They will attend the supreme convention opening in San Francisco August 1, and close at the Hotel Commodore, Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut. A party of Canadian delegates will be reported here Saturday. Portland may enter the lists at San Francisco for the convention to be held here in 1935, local delegates to the coming convention indicated. Seattle has withdrawn effort to land the 1935 meeting, it was reported by the Seattle office.

Northern Pacific Puts New Modern Cars Into Service

Commencing with the North Coast Limited train No. 1, which leaves St. Paul today, passenger equipment of the Northern Pacific railway will be replaced with new modern steel cars of the latest design, according to advice received today by A. B. Charlton, general agent of the Northern Pacific in Portland. The second train to receive new equipment will be North Coast Limited No. 2, leaving Portland and Seattle Monday, and other transcontinental trains will be taken care of in rapid succession.

The equipment includes baggage and mail cars, day coaches, tourist and standard sleeping cars and dining cars, Charlton stated.

VETS, IN RUSH, RAISE OLD GLORY

(Continued From Page One) by members of the club, who said that they were following a custom inaugurated before the war in lowering the flag halfway on the death of a member.

IS SET FOR SATURDAY

Funeral services for John Henry Albert, wealthy former miller who died at his Milwaukee home Wednesday morning, will be held Saturday at 2:30 p. m. from the Catholic church at Milwaukee. Father Bernard will officiate. The services will be public, and friends are invited. Arrangements are in charge of McEntee & Hillers. Relatives have not announced where Alberts will be buried.

War on Gopher And Squirrel Pests Is Getting Results

Returning this morning from Wallawa county, Stanley G. Jewett and Ira N. Gabrielson of the U. S. biological survey, are planning to leave on another field trip Monday through Lake county. Gabrielson, representing the rodent animal section of the service, reports great progress in the poisoning and killing of squirrels and gophers in Wallawa county. Jewett inspected the work of his section in the extermination of predatory animals. Both men state Wallawa county crops to be excellent and the stock on ranges in fine condition.

NORTHCLIFFE DINNER IS CALLED OFF

(Continued From Page 1) President Harding, it was learned. Lord Northcliffe learned of this action while in New York. It was stated, but having a personal invitation to meet the president and the members of his cabinet, he came to Washington today.

KATHERINE Mac DONALD TRUST YOUR WIFE

She dared everything for her husband—and he refused to believe her sacrifice. It's Katherine MacDonal's finest production.

SONORA GRAND OPERA STARS

CARTOON COMEDY—LIBERTY NEWS—KEATES AND OUR GIANT ORGANS

Next Week CURWOOD'S LATEST

Next Week THE GOLDEN STAIR

Pioneer Memorial Building, Monument To Poet Are Backed

To cause the erection of a memorial building dedicated to Oregon pioneers, directors of the Society of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers have appointed a committee to cooperate with other interested organizations throughout the state to take necessary steps.

The committee consists of Harvey G. Starkweather, Mrs. Mary Barlow Williams, E. R. Beckman, Mrs. D. P. Thomson and Ralph E. Williams.

The board voted to assist in the erection of a monument to Sam L. Simpson, Oregon's pioneer poet. A campaign under the auspices of the society will be held in September in one of the city parks for the pioneers and their descendants.

Attractive features consisting of old fashioned games on the green, speaking and music will be arranged.

Lower Wool Rates Would Be Boost to Portland as Center

Decided benefits to Portland as a wool center would follow favorable action on the applications of transcontinental rail lines for permission to make lower rates to Eastern destinations from Pacific ports than from intermediate points, according to John H. Lothrop, secretary of the Portland Traffic and Transportation association. Granting of lower rates, Lothrop stated, would tend to promote the wool scouring and manufacturing business of Portland and would result in more favorable water rates on wool shipments.

Application of the rail carriers is based on the desire of the roads to meet wool competition in the transportation of wool from Pacific ports to the Atlantic seaboard. Hearings before the interstate commerce commission on the proposed new rate will be held here August 15, according to advice received by Secretary Lothrop today from Washington.

Hearings on the wool rate also will be held in other Western cities on the following dates: Boise, Idaho, August 1; Denver, Colo., August 2; Salt Lake City, August 3; Los Angeles, August 10; San Francisco, August 13; Spokane, August 17, and Helena, Mont., August 19.

HEALTH CRUSADE URGED IN BEHALF OF BOYS, GIRLS

"All the doctors in the country," all the nurses and all the social and health workers cannot bring about the rise of health standards that the nation is in imminent need of," said Miss M. Grace Osborne, assistant director of the modern health crusade work of the National Tuberculosis association, in her address this morning at the institute which she is conducting for three days in the Halsey & Frank auditorium.

"A health revolution is a matter for personal effort, and to secure the individual interest we must first educate the children in the value of good health. Children love to play a game, a game of being a soldier or a crusader appeals to them especially, and when it is put on a competitive basis its appeal is even increased, hence the rapidly with which the modern health crusade has caught on."

Already we have been asked to prepare graded courses in the health crusade work in order to stimulate the interest of the children as they advance to higher grades. This new course will be ready for use next fall. I strongly urge the linking up of the crusade with local movements of a health educational or civic character as a means of maintaining the interest. Every child enrolled in the crusade is a potential health officer or nurse, who is of vastly more value in educating the other members of his family than any community nurse, for he is listened to, and he is on the job 24 hours a day.

Much of the morning session was given over to introducing the crusade to the children, one of the members of the institute acting as crusade executive and the others as pupils. Mrs. Selma Carr-Dunbar, executive secretary of the Oregon Tuberculosis association, and Miss Osborne acted as assistants, thereby bringing out much constructive discussion.

This afternoon's session is devoted to a discussion and round table on various phases of publicity and sanitation campaigns. The institute will continue over Friday with sessions at 10 a. m. and 1:30 p. m.



ANITA... STEWART IN PLAYTHINGS OF DESTINY

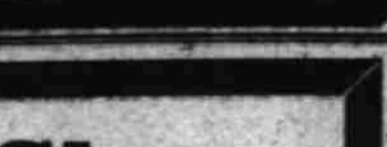
The story of a woman who married once for love and once to forget it.

SCREENLAND NEWS

Portland's Own Home-Grown News Reel

If you were at Windemuth last Sunday, come in and see yourself.

TODAY



Complete New Show TODAY TODAY TODAY

THE BARBARIAN

STARRING JANE NOVAK WITH WELL KNOWN CAST INCLUDING MONROE SALISBURY



BROWNIE THE HUMAN DOG

SOCIETY DOGS Most remarkable animal comedy ever produced.



RIVOLI MUSIC

"PRIZMA" "FOX NEWS"

RIVOLI

"The Barbarian" is a romantic drama of the north woods, and because of its sweetness and simplicity has been hailed as one of the year's biggest motion pictures.

Today

Next Week THE GOLDEN STAIR