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SEVENTY-THIRD YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 9, 1924

PRICE FIVE CENTS

TAX UNLIKELY ON BONDS IS FORECAST NOW

House Defeats Resolution Proposing Constitutional Amendment Hitting Tax-Exempt Securities

PARTY LINES LOST IN DEBATE AND VOTE

Vote Thought to Have Killed Measure for Present Session at Least

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The house today defeated a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to prevent issuance of tax-exempt securities. The vote, which came after two debates, was 247 to 133, or seven less than the required two-thirds.

Republicans with 17 exceptions voted for the resolution as did 69 democrats. Before the final vote the house rejected 208 to 167, a motion by Representative Steagall, democrat, Alabama, to recommit the measure for an amendment which would have deprived states of the right to tax bonds issued by the federal farm loan board.

Ratification Timed

The only amendment adopted was one by Representative Nero, democrat, Virginia, to require ratification by states within seven years.

Although the amendment was asked by President Coolidge and Secretary Mellon it was not taken into consideration of the tax revision program recommended by the treasury and its defeat will have no effect on the tax bill already reported by the ways and means committee. Mr. Mellon had estimated there was approximately \$11,000,000,000 outstanding in tax-exempt securities.

Opposition Strong

The measure was attacked in debate by many republican leaders and supported by some democrats. Representative Bacharach of New Jersey, a member of the ways and means committee and Representative Beggs of Ohio and Graham of Pennsylvania were among the republicans who spoke against the amendment. Representative Crisp of Georgia led the democratic fight for the resolution.

Representative Longworth of Ohio, republican floor leader, charged in the debate however, that opposition to the amendment was political, pointing out it had passed the house last year by a substantial majority.

Amendment Believed Killed

The vote today in the opinion of leaders, officially kills the amendment, so far as this session is concerned.

The break among republican members of the ways and means committee on the maximum surtax of 25 per cent reported by the committee was emphasized today by the criticisms of those who supported the rate in the majority report on the bill.

EXTRA ELECTION AT SILVERTON

People to Vote on Special Taxes for Public Improvements Feb. 25

SILVERTON, Or., Feb. 8.—(Special to The Statesman)—A special election will be held at Silvertown on February 25 to vote on the following proposed amendments of the city charter: Providing for a 1 mill tax for the fire department; for the construction of public toilets and comfort stations; for the changing of the method of assessment for the extension and maintenance of the city sewer system.

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Fair Saturday, except probably rain near the coast; moderate north to east winds.
LOCAL WEATHER (Friday)
Maximum temperature, 45.
Minimum temperature, 20.
Rainfall, none.
River, 11.3 feet above.
Atmosphere, clear.
Wind, northwest.

PAN-AMERICAN GOES OUT OF BUSINESS DOHENY ANNOUNCES

Attack on Validity of Leases in Senate Investigation is Cause—Company Formed to Develop California Naval Oil Leases—\$12,000,000 Issue of Bonds is Cancelled.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—Dissolution of the Pan-American Western Petroleum company, formed to develop the California naval oil reserves, was announced tonight by Edward L. Doheny, chairman of the Pan-American Petroleum & Transport company. The action, he said, resulted from the attack on the validity of the leases in the senate's investigation. In a letter to stockholders of Pan-American petroleum, Mr. Doheny announced the withdrawal of an offer to subscribe for 525,000 shares of the western subsidiary at \$20 a share and cancellation of a \$12,000,000 bond issue which sold last fall.

SCOUT MEMORIAL WELL ATTENDED

Nearly 350 Persons Observe Honors to Late President Last Night

Nearly 350 people attended the Salem Boy Scout memorial services for the late ex-President Woodrow Wilson, their honorary president, at the Congregational church last night. Features of the program were the administration of the Scout oath and law to Mayor J. B. Giesy by K. L. Haga, deputy regional scout executive, of Spokane, and a special film, "Knights of the Square Table."

"America," with Mrs. Frank Zinn at the pipe organ, opened the program. The purpose of the meeting was explained by Elmo S. White, chairman. This was followed by "Onward Christian Soldiers," the late ex-president's favorite song. Rev. H. D. Chambers gave the invocation.

Four two-minute talks were given. "Time, place and birth of Woodrow Wilson," was the subject of Winston Williams. Earl Pemberton spoke on "His ideals and efforts toward world peace," followed by a talk on "His interest in the Boy Scout movement," by Tom Childs. The "Chief facts of his illness, death and funeral" was the topic of Robert Shattuc.

With bowed heads the audience stood while Frank Muston sang "Nearer My God To Thee," followed by a short prayer. The court of honor then held session prior to the showing of the special film.

"I believe that the people of the west are just beginning to realize the worth of the Boy Scout movement and its importance throughout the state and nation," Mayor J. B. Giesy said, in speaking of the honor bestowed upon him. "We who are interested here know and hope that the community will give its whole-hearted support to the movement."

Frank Grover, with 12 merit badges to his credit, received the greatest number of awards in the court of honor, Willamette council, Boy Scouts of America. He received badges for first aid, personal health, athletics, fireman, hiking, pioneering, civics, bird study, camping, forestry, conservation and scholarship. Hugh Shattuc was second man with seven merit badges to his credit. He received these for excelling in civics, forestry, bugling, painting, pathfinding, life saving and bird study.

Winston Williams received three, for camping, swimming and bird study. Tristram Edmundson received two, for athletics and civics. Robert Shattuc received a merit badge for bird study.

The following qualified for the rank of second class Scouts; Glenn Gaar, Tom Childs and Frederick Edmundson.
Hugh Shattuc and Tristram Edmundson have qualified for the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award that can be awarded. These awards will be given at a future court of honor when the credentials arrive from the national court of honor in New York. Frank Grover qualified for Star Scout, the second highest honor in scouting. The first two boys named are the first in this district to merit this honor.

President Notified
WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Notice of an investigation of the causes for increasing gasoline prices in South Dakota was sent to President Coolidge today by the trade commission.

FIRST PENALTY OF DEATH PAID BY GAS ROUTE

Chinese Tong Murderer Believed to Have Died Instantly, Though Officers Fear to Open Cell

FUMES FROM DEADLY SPRAY MENACE OTHERS

Army Medical Doctor Loses Chance to Experiment in Interest of Science

CARSON CITY, Nev., Feb. 8.—(By the Associated Press)—In the first lethal gas execution of record in the United States at the state prison here today, Gee Jon, tong murderer, was officially pronounced dead two hours and 45 minutes after a spray of liquid hydro-cyanic acid was turned into the stone death chamber in the prison yard.

Official physicians estimated that the Chinese lapsed into unconsciousness after his breath of the vaporized acid. Death, they said, came virtually instantly, although the condemned man's head continued to move up and down for six minutes. The movement of the head, they explained, probably was muscular reaction, which often occurs after death. Three doctors who officiated were agreed that the condemned man did not suffer.

Chamber Stays Sealed

Warden Denver S. Dickerson, taking every precaution to guard others from the effect of the deadly gas, held the death chamber sealed from 9:40 a. m. the moment the acid was admitted, until 12:23 p. m. When guards, physicians and newspapermen entered the chamber, the odor of the gas was still pronounced. The physicians warned the knot of men to step back, saying that it was not yet safe to enter.

A few minutes later, guards went in and removed the body to the prison building, where physicians made an examination.

Experiment Useless

Major D. A. Turner, USA medical reserve corps, who was one of the official physicians had announced before the execution that he would, in the interest of science, attempt to revive Gee Jon after the death chamber had been opened. Warden Dickerson had offered no objection to this, but the gas was left in the chamber so long, Major Turner explained that rigor mortis had set in and it was useless to attempt to restore life.

Revival Held Possible

The major still contended, however, that if he had been able to enter the chamber within 15 or 20 minutes after the gas was turned on, there would have been an "even chance" of restoring life. Such resuscitations had been accomplished often in cases of men exposed to the same and other forms of gas.

All jewel boxes were open and the entire apartment was in disorder, indicating that the girl had fought hard to save her life and her valuables. In their probe of Miss Lawson's life, police learned she was the daughter of a prominent merchant at Walnut Springs, Texas, and that she had played small parts in motion pictures, but for two years or more had been unemployed. They learned she had been a member of the gay party that ended in the death of E. B. Duke, wealthy tobacco manufacturer at Greenwich, Conn., last September. Gehard M. Dahl, chairman of the executive board of the Brooklyn Manhattan Transit company, vice president of the Chase National bank, and a member of the brokerage firm of Hayden, Stone & Co., according to Warner Jones, a New York business man and a member of the party at which Duke met his death, took a friendly interest in Miss Lawson. He said that on Wednesday evening of this week, with Dahl and a girl whose first name was Edna, but whose last name he refused to divulge, he had visited the apartment of Miss Lawson.

"We played Mah Jong all evening," he said.
Dahl, gray-haired and about 50 years old, answered the description furnished by Thomas Kane, the elevator operator at the apartment house, as the one who frequently visited Miss Lawson's apartment.
Kane said two men entered the apartment about 8 o'clock this morning carrying a bundle which they said was consigned to Miss Lawson from the American Railway express. Kane said they went directly to Miss Lawson's apartment and were admitted by the

BANK HOLDUP IS ADMITTED BY MAN

Surrenders to Oregon City Sheriff; Says He Robbed Moiser Bank

OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 8.—C. R. Williams, 30, surrendered to Sheriff Wilson here tonight with the statement that he participated in the robbery of the Moiser Valley bank at Mosier, Or., November 27 and that he had now decided to pay the penalty and reform after he had served his sentence, the sheriff said.

According to the sheriff, Williams said that he and two other men had taken part in the robbery, which netted \$900. Two of them, he said, had entered the bank and held up G. B. Kellogg, the cashier, while the third waited outside in an automobile. After the robbery they drove to The Dalles and were in that city when the sheriff there left to investigate the robbery.
Williams declines to name his confederates.

21 CITIES REACHED

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 8.—San Francisco was in communication with 21 cities in the United States and Havana, Cuba, by long distance telephone and radio relay tonight.

SPOKANE MAN FINISHES HIS 26-DAY FAST

Edwin L. Johnson Declares Rheumatic Trouble and Cigarette Habit are Cured

SPOKANE, Feb. 8.—Edwin L. Johnson, 30, of this city, completed a 26-day fast today and declared that rheumatism trouble of long standing apparently had been cured.

For two weeks, he said, he will remain on a light diet of milk and fruit juices. For two weeks prior to his fast he lived on two bowls of soup daily.

Although he lost 20 pounds in weight, Mr. Johnson said he felt no ill effects and realized many benefits, including the loss of all desire for cigarettes. After the first week, he said, the absence of food was not even uncomfortable.

MASS MEETING IS CALLED TONIGHT

Adjusted Compensation is Topic—Governor Pierce Principal Speaker

Adjusted compensation will be the keynote of a mass meeting at the armory tonight, for which Governor Walter M. Pierce will be the principal speaker. Governor Pierce has expressed himself as being in favor of some sort of adjusted compensation for the ex-service men and it is expected he will have much of importance to say upon the subject, having given his time to the problem of the returned soldier.

General George A. White will also speak while short talks will be given by Harley O. White, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and C. P. Bishop, George Griffith vice commander, state department, of the American legion, will preside.

In view of much propaganda against adjusted compensation and the statements of Secretary Mellon regarding a cash bonus, meetings similar to that scheduled for Salem tonight are being held throughout the entire nation. These were originally called for next week, but because Governor Pierce would not be able to speak at a time the armory was available, the date of the Salem meeting was advanced.

The meeting tonight will be a district affair and delegates from Silverton, Dallas, Monmouth, Independence, Woodburn and other nearby points are expected to attend.

JAPAN FORESTS ARE PLENTIFUL

C. J. Hogue of Portland Astonished at Timber Resources in Orient

SEATTLE, Feb. 8.—American lumbermen who think of Japan as a country where the forests are almost gone and where virtually all timber used must be imported are greatly in error, C. J. Hogue of Portland said here today, after returning from Japan this week where he went three months ago as a member of a commission appointed by the Douglas Fir Exploitation & Export company to obtain information concerning Japan's needs for lumber to be used in rebuilding cities and towns destroyed by earthquake and fire last September.

"Members of our commission were astonished," Hogue said, "to find that while Japan is smaller than the state of California and densely populated, two-thirds of her total area is forest land, giving her eleven hundred billion feet of standing timber or about one-half as much as the entire United States now has."

"A still more astonishing fact is that the Japanese are cutting nearly as much lumber annually, in proportion to the total amount of standing timber as is the United States."
"Nevertheless, there will be a large and constantly increasing market for Pacific northwest lumber in Japan for the next five or 10 years because of rebuilding that must be done as a result of the earthquake disaster."
"Japan's cultivated forests consist of red cedar that resembles Washington state red cedar less than it does California redwood, a white cedar much like the Port Orford cedar of Oregon, and fir, spruce and pine that are somewhat similar to Pacific northwest white fir and the spruce and white pine of the east states."

BREWER KEEPS HIS EVIDENCE UNDER WATCH

Treasury Officials Ask Court to Compel Depositing Securities Which He Holds With Judge

MELLON SAYS PROOF IS NOT AT ALL ADEQUATE

Numbers Different During War Because of Machines Used Says Secretary

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Treasury officials went into court today to compel Charles B. Brewer, a department of justice attorney, to make accessible to them the securities he holds and on which he has based charges of duplication in government bonds.

The action took the form of a motion in Brewer's case now pending in the District of Columbia supreme court in which he has asked that the treasury be restrained from interfering with his possession of the securities loaned to him by the treasury for the purpose of his investigation of alleged irregularities in the engraving bureau.

Securities Demanded
Brewer's move in court followed a request by the treasury that he return the securities to the treasury agents who were examining a report made by him upon bureau affairs. Treasury agents declared they could proceed no further with their check up on Brewer's charges of duplication without examination of the securities he held. United States district attorney Gordon, in filing the motion in the district court, restated the treasury's difficulties in obtaining its securities and required the court to direct Brewer to deposit them with the court.

In that way treasury agents will have access to them and their investigation can proceed, Mr. Gordon said. Affidavits by Under-Secretary of the Treasury Winston and Assistant Attorney General Holland, accompanying the motion declared that until access was had to the securities the investigation of conditions by the treasury would be held up.

While Mr. Gordon was pressing his motion on which a decision is expected soon, word came from the White House that President Coolidge failed to understand what purpose Brewer had in refusing to permit examination of the securities by the treasury.

Mellon Explains

Secretary Mellon, earlier in the day, had declared claims by Brewer that the style and font of type used in numbering some of the bonds was proof of irregularities could not be substantiated in his belief. The treasury chief said that the press of work during the war had compelled the engraving bureau to buy numbering machines in the open market and that these differed from the regular bureau type numbers and he therefore, believed the indicated forgeries could be traced to that cause. But until the treasury can examine the bonds now in Brewer's possession, the secretary said the facts could not be ascertained.

Affidavits filed today carried also a letter from Secretary Mellon to the attorney general requesting return of the securities. High treasury officials reiterated today that they had found nothing of a serious or alarming character in their check up on Brewer's charges, which have been under investigation since early in January. They, nevertheless, propose to examine all of the accusations in order that the treasury as well as the country may know whether any wrong has been done.

Two Stayton Teams Win From Mill City Quints

STAYTON, Or., Feb. 8.—(Special to The Statesman)—Stayton continued its winning streak by taking a double-header from Mill City here tonight. The boys won 23 to 13 and the girls 24 to 10. Both games were played before a large crowd. Phillips was high man for Stayton with 14 points, while Smith of Mill City was high point man for the visitors with four points. For the girls Miss Haworth took first honors for Stayton with 14 points, and Miss Rowles of Mill City was high point woman with 6 points. Following the games all members of the teams were feted at a banquet.

BOOK OF JOB WELL RECEIVED BY SALEM FOLK

Outstanding Bible Character Presented By Stuart Walker—Reader Players Last Night

A good many Salem people heard the Bible recited last night for the first time in a long while. The occasion was the presentation of "The Book of Job" by the Stuart Walker players. The presentation was solemn and sincere, and throughout the entire evening there was a spiritual effect which reached the audience. There was nothing irreverent, but everything was in closest harmony with the sacredness of the presentation.

There were two narrators, Miss Genevieve Addleman, the red, and Miss Judith Lowry, the blue. Of course the central figure was Job, a part most excellently taken by George Sommes. Mr. Sommes entered thoroughly into the work of impersonating this great character and displayed the characteristics of an actor with strength and intelligence. Job was the central figure always, and even the pleas of his three friends failed to shift the center of interest. Elihu, the strong voice of youth, was taken by Wayne Huff, who has promise of being a remarkable actor some day. The voice of the whirlwind was solemn and earnest. Such parts are easily made travesties, but last night from beginning to end there was a sincerity that rang true from start to finish.

This is the first time Salem people had ever seen such a presentation. They received it in reverent spirit and when the lights came on it was some time before the audience moved. The lighting effects were superb and illustrated the various phases of denouement of human intelligence.

The Business and Professional Women's club are deserving of thanks for giving the people of Salem the opportunity of seeing this wonderfully illuminating part of the sacred word.

HAY RATE FIGHT IS BEGUN HERE

Railroad Companies Attempt to Quash Commission Reduction Order

A fight to defeat the public service commission in the reduced freight rates on hay shipments recently ordered by the commission was begun in the Marion county circuit court yesterday by the Southern Pacific company and eight other railroad companies operating in Oregon.

The rates were recently ordered reduced, largely for the benefit of dairymen and other consumers on the coast in the shipping of hay from points east in the state. The reductions were made on a mileage basis, benefitting all western Oregon points proportionately to those in the eastern part of the state.

All farmer's organizations, including the Grange, the Farmers' Union, the State Farm Bureau, the Tillamook Dairymen's association and others joined in the plea that the commission reduce the rates. Notwithstanding this considerable sentiment was worked up shortly before the order became effective in which western Oregon feed dealers and commercial organizations charged that the order was a discrimination against western Oregon and in favor of eastern Oregon.

The public service commission declared this was the result of propaganda by the Southern Pacific company. Members of the commission said yesterday that they will "fight the case to a finish."

Sudden Delirium Seizes Seattle Business Men

SEATTLE, Feb. 8.—An appeal has been made by the publicity committee of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce to its members and to citizens of Washington state, business men and commercial organizations to drop the use of "Wash" and "Wn" in letters and to "write it Washington."
The committee said that it believed that the use of the full name of the state would be more distinctive and of greater publicity value.

Landslide in Cow Creek Canyon Holds Up Trains

ROSEBURG, Or., Feb. 8.—All northbound traffic over the Southern Pacific railroad was held up today by a landslide in Cow Creek canyon.

EDITOR GIVES NEW EVIDENCE ON OIL LEASES

Bonfils of Denver Post Says Sinclair Entered Into Contract to Pay \$1,000,000 for Claims

STORIES IN HIS PAPER REASON FOR AGREEMENT

President Signs Oil Lease Annulment Resolution—Exception Taken

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—A new turn was taken today in the senate oil investigation with the testimony of Frederick G. Bonfils, publisher of the Denver Post, that Harry F. Sinclair had entered into a contract to pay him and his associates \$1,000,000 in settlement of claims growing out of reports asserted in the Teapot Dome naval oil reserve. Senator Walsh, Democrat, Montana, has told the senate that every vintage of these reports had been denied by the federal government.

Contract Signed

According to Mr. Bonfils' testimony, the contract was entered into in Kansas City after he had sent a reporter of his paper to the home of Albert B. Fall in New Mexico to investigate rumors regarding the leasing of Teapot Dome to Mr. Sinclair by Mr. Fall as secretary of the interior and after publication of one article in the Denver Post attacking the lease by "analysis and theory."

The contract was signed, he said, after two conferences between Mr. Sinclair and Mr. Bonfils, his partner, H. H. Tammen, John Leo Stack, a Denver oil man and H. H. Schwartz, their attorney.

The opening up of this unexpected line of investigation made it necessary for the committee to defer until next Monday the hearing of William G. McAduff former secretary of the treasury which Mr. McAduff has requested in a letter sent to Chairman Lenroot last night and read into the committee record today. The field of the oil investigation was further broadened today by the adoption of the senate of a resolution by Senator La Follette, Republican, Wisconsin, directing the oil committee to inquire into, and report upon the claims of the Honolulu consolidated oil company, to oil lands situated within naval reserve No. 2 in California.

Dill Asks Probe

Senator Dill, Democrat, Washington, a member of the oil committee proposed that the senate go even further by inquiring into what part Mr. Fall had in efforts to obtain oil fields in Columbia, Mesopotamia, Palestine and Persia and other foreign countries.

President Coolidge signed the Walsh oil lease annulment resolution but he attached a memorandum in which he took exception to language in the preamble which declares the leases were made in violation of the law and under circumstances indicating fraud and corruption.

The president also sent to the senate the nominations of Silas H. Strawn and Altee Pomerene, as special government council in the oil lease cases. They were referred to the oil commissions where a fight on them was forecast.

Borah Opposed

Reference of the nominations was made at the conclusion of an all day debate in the senate on the Denby resignation resolution in which addresses were delivered by Senators Walsh of Montana and Heflin of Alabama, Democrats, in support of the measure and by Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, in opposition to it.

Another of the many developments of the day was the issuance of subpoenas by the oil commission for a number of witnesses including John C. Shaffer of Chicago, publisher of newspapers in a number of cities; Robert McCague, of the pioneer oil company; and Frank Kistler, president of the producers and refiners oil company of New York.

An echo of the oil industry was heard in the house where Representatives Jeffers, Alabama, and Brown, Tennessee, Democrats, jointly introduced a resolution calling for an investigation of the income tax returns of Harry F. Sinclair, Edward L. Doheny and Edward L. Doheny, Jr., during the period from 1913 through 1922.