

The Weather — OREGON — Cloudy; moderate southerly gales along coast. Thursday—Max. 59; min. 52; river, 5.4; stationary; rainfall, none; atmosphere, cloudy; wind, south.

# The Oregon Statesman

Twelve Pages Today

Just eleven more shopping days until Christmas. Save your self time and trouble by reading the advertisements before shopping. Do not delay until the last minute. Do it now.

SEVENTY-FOURTH YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1924

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## PROPERTY IN STATE SHOWS BIG INCREASE

Gain of \$16,740,117.95 Over Last Year Is Given in Statement From Tax Commission

## MARION COUNTY GAINS WHILE POLK DECREASES

Taxable Properties for 1924 More Than \$600,000 Over Previous Year Here

An increase of \$16,470,117.95 in the total value of taxable property in the state, including that equalized by the county boards of equalization and that equalized and apportioned by the state tax commission, is shown in a statement issued Thursday by the state tax commission. The total valuation in 1924 was \$1,058,850,763.61 against \$1,042,410,618.66 in 1923. The statement includes the assessment roll of properties of certain public service companies.

Polk Shows Loss Marion county shows an increase of \$604,585.45 over the preceding year while Polk county shows a decrease of \$34,699.66. In 1924 the total valuation of taxable properties in Marion county was \$43,724,719.17 against \$43,120,133.72. Figures for Polk county show a valuation of \$14,749,226.53 for 1924 and \$14,109,626.19 for 1923.

In detail, giving figures for each classification, the following statement of the summary of the assessment roll of Marion county for 1924 as equalized by the county board of equalization is as follows: Lands Are Tested Tillable acres, 513,464 (including all lands timber and non-tillable, with a total valuation of \$10,256,550.00); average of \$27.70 an acre; improvement on woods or pasture lands, \$3,156,540; town and city lots, \$4,837,545; improvements on town or city lots, \$6,220,395; improvements on lands not deeded or patented, \$283,210; railroads under construction, logging roads and rolling stock, none; steamboats, boats, stationary engines, manufacturing machinery, \$622,696; merchandise and stock in trade, \$1,651,755; farm implements, wagons, carriages, motor vehicles, etc., \$264,515; money, notes and accounts, \$103,640.

## THURSDAY IN WASHINGTON

The senate considered the Muscle Shoals bill. The senate approved the naval construction bill authorizing a \$110,000,000 program. Re-allocation of radio broadcasting wave lengths was abandoned by the commerce department. The advisory council of the national conference on outdoor recreation began a two-day meeting. It was decided to appoint a congressional committee to investigate the question of a permanent housing program for the army. Liquor treaties with Canada, France, the Netherlands and Panama were approved by the senate foreign relations committee. The house passed the agriculture appropriation bill carrying \$30,000,000 for road construction and \$44,000,000 for other purposes. The treasury accepted statements of the British chancellor, Churchill, on allied debts as "obvious and logical" and withheld further comment. Commissioner Benson of the shipping board, before a house committee, opposed separation of the board from operations of the merchant fleet. Commerce department figures placed the death rate in the registration area of the United States in 1923 at 13.3 per 1,000, against 11.8 in 1922. Postmaster General New, it was learned, will advise congress that to increase postal pay, increased rates on all service except letter mail will be necessary.

## Twenty Deserving Boys Now in Training School to Spend Xmas at Home

Christmas will be observed in a joyful manner this year by 16 or 20 boys who will be permitted to visit their homes during the holiday from the state training school, according to L. M. Gilbert, superintendent. The boys who are deserving winning this privilege, which will allow their Christmas season to be different from the standard observances in the state institution. It is the intention of the officers in charge to produce conditions which will bring back the wayward boy and to return him to society as a useful citizen. To accomplish this purpose the boys are kept in school, either in the shops or the class rooms the greater part of the day. Although the school is crowded beyond the intended capacity, there is always something doing for the youngsters. There are no idle groups. The boys are busy with their domestic labor. If not thus employed they are in the shops or in the school rooms. The boys are taught initiative. One means of doing this is to have the youngsters do things for themselves. Such an occasion was observed during the past week when members of the staff of the training school were together for a luncheon. The officers' dining room had been arranged by the boys. Place cards, which had been prepared by one of the boys, were used. In the preparation of the designs the youngster was given free rein. The pen and ink sketches prepared for the occasion were very interesting.

## CLEAVER YET DRY LEADER

Governor Pierce Denies Prohibition Enforcement Officer Has Resigned

George L. Cleaver, in charge of the state prohibition enforcement department, has not resigned. This was the positive statement made Thursday afternoon by Governor Walter M. Pierce. Governor Pierce said that in the course of the 20 months that the dry agent had been in charge of prohibition enforcement, Mr. Cleaver had said that if at any time his activities proved to be embarrassing to the governor he would resign, but that any resignation was not even being considered by him at present. Rumors were flying around yesterday to the effect that Mr. Cleaver had handed in an oral resignation, which had been tendered at several times during the last few months, it was reported.

## SAY COUNTY SHOULD ENFORCE DRY LAWS

District Attorneys Hold State Should Have No Control of Prohibition

PORTLAND, Dec. 11.—State prohibition law enforcement officials would be entirely eliminated and the enforcement of the law would be left completely in the hands of the respective county officials of the state if the stand taken today at annual meeting of the District Attorneys' association of Oregon were crystallized into effective legislation. Instead of following recommendations of the anti-saloon league and recommending that the state liquor law enforcement officials get one-half of all fines collected without limit, rather than 25 per cent of all fines received from prohibition law violators, as at present, the district attorneys favored allowing state officials no part of the fines. Instead of making jail sentences compulsory in every violation of the prohibition law, and of prohibiting judges from remitting or suspending any sentence, as suggested by the anti-saloon league's program, the district attorneys proposed today that existing laws be stringent and favor placing the responsibility of dealing with liquor law violators with the courts and judges in their respective jurisdictions. Only on one point were the district attorneys in general accord with the suggestions of the league—they were agreed that stiff penalties are essential in dealing with intoxicated automobile drivers. Recreation Service to Have Three Year Survey WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—A three year survey of the nation's recreational facilities, embracing national, state, county and municipal parks and forests was announced today by the advisory council of the national conference on outdoor recreation. Assurances of continued support and cooperation were conveyed to the council at its opening session in a letter from President Coolidge, a personal address by Secretary Hoover and a communication from Elihu Root. It was disclosed that \$85,000 had been made available for its work from an undisclosed source. Unless intelligent organization and provision can furnish new occasions and opportunities and create new habits of outdoor life, Mr. Root warned in his letter, "we shall lose our physical health, our moral stamina, our intellectual power and become a decadent people."

## CHIEF WITNESS IS SCORED ON TESTIMONY

Mortimer Admits Mistake Under Cross-Examination By Defense Attorney During Forbes Trial

## CONTRADICTS SELF ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS

Hostility Towards Forbes Held Only Reason for Advancing Story

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—(By The Associated Press.)—An intense fire of cross examination by defense counsel wrung from Elias H. Mortimer, the government's principal witness in the Veterans' bureau conspiracy trial today, flat repudiation of portions of Mortimer's story to the senate committee which investigated the bureau in 1923. "If that's in the book, it's a mistake," he replied to a question based on a portion of his senate committee testimony at variance with his story in the present trial. "I have had my recollection refreshed on that point since the senate investigation," he said in answer to another question which revealed a difference between the two accounts. Hostility Admitted Mortimer, on the witness stand for the fourth day of cross examination in the trial of Charles R. Forbes, former director of the Veterans' bureau, and J. W. Thompson, building contractor, for conspiracy to defraud the government through hospital contracts answered affirmatively a question as to whether his testimony before the senate committee out of which eventually came the indictments in the recent trial, had been motivated by a "hostility towards Forbes." "I didn't say before the senate investigating committee that you would never have made the story public if you could have effected a reconciliation with your wife," asked Randall Laughlin, attorney for Thompson. "That is right," Mortimer replied. Would Not Perjure "Would you have denied everything you have told about Col. Forbes if you had effected such a reconciliation," was the next question. "Yes," said the witness, "but I would not have committed perjury." "Mrs. Mortimer begged me not to go before the committee and testify against Forbes," Mortimer said at one point in his cross examination. He told of an effort by Mrs. Mortimer to bring Forbes and her husband together in the home of Mortimer's father-in-law in Philadelphia shortly before Mortimer appeared before the senate committee, in October 1923. "If I go into that room only one of us will come out," the witness said he replied to his wife. He denied he ever had told his father-in-law that he would "get" Forbes.

## NEW ADVISES POSTAL RAISE

Wage Advance to Be Met By Increase in Postal Service Charges

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—(By The Associated Press.)—Postmaster General New will advise congress that the way to raise enough revenue to meet proposed increases in postal pay is to increase the rates on practically all classes of postal service, except letters and newspapers, which would involve more postage on newspapers and periodicals, a subject of many heated fights in congress through many administrations and would be distributed throughout the fabric of the postal service, so that under the plan, they would be absorbed by the public generally. At the request of the senate post office committee, the postmaster general is about to conclude a survey showing how the additional revenue may be brought in, and this week he will discuss it with President Coolidge. Soon thereafter it probably will find its way to congress, probably in the form of a proposed bill, for consideration if congress decides to override President Coolidge's veto of the bill passed at the last session increasing the salaries of postal employees. In the senate today, a futile attempt was made to obtain an

## SPEEDER LOSES ALL ARGUMENTS WITH OFFICERS

First Refuses to Go to Station and Then Jailed for Being Drunk

## WHEAT FARM SOLD

SPOKANE, Dec. 11.—Sale of a wheat farm comprising nearly 3000 acres near Harrington, Lincoln county, Wash., to J. E. McCallister, a Spokane city and president of the state bankers' association, was announced here today. The consideration was not given but in a recent appraisal of the Ochs estate, of which it was a part, it was appraised at \$143,000. Mrs. Emma Ochs, widow of the estate, resides in Seattle.

## DRAINAGE IN STATE URGED

Oregon Association Holds Meeting at Eugene; Officers are Elected

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 11.—The Oregon Drainage association met at the Eugene Chamber of Commerce rooms Thursday afternoon to consider the numerous questions pertaining to drainage projects in the state. Discussions were led by men well qualified on the subject, resolutions were passed and officers elected for the ensuing year. Sam H. Brown, of Gervais, was chosen as president, and Professor W. L. Powers was elected secretary of the association. Eugene Chadwick called the meeting to order and introduced R. U. Steelquist, of the Eugene Brick & Tile Works, who responded. Professor W. L. Powers, secretary of the association spoke on "Wet Valley Soil Types, and Their Drainage." He stated that there are over one and one-quarter million acres of land in western Oregon that are in great need of some system of drainage. Some of it would necessitate drainage districts, while the rest could be taken care of by local efforts. He discussed the drainage problem in detail and demonstrated how the proper method permits air to enter the soil, thus working a permanent improvement. Professor Earl Price, of the soil extension service of Oregon Agriculture, presided.

## TOURIST TRAVEL IN OREGON DISCUSSED

Old Oregon Trail Association Lay Plans for Greater Advertising

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 11.—How to induce tourists to use the historic Old Oregon Trail as a route to the Pacific northwest was the principal subject discussed at the annual meeting of the Old Oregon Trail association here today. California spends \$889,000 annually advertising for tourists. Washington spends \$145,000 and Oregon only \$40,000, declared Walter E. Meacham, president of the association, in his address to the gathering. There is need, said Mr. Meacham, to have a representative stationed at Salt Lake City or some other point on the main line of the association, in his address to the Old Oregon Trail. According to Mr. Meacham, publicity so far has increased traffic over the trail 50 per cent and 70,000 cars have used the trail, carrying 230,000 persons. He declared that this was but an indication of what national advertising could do. ARENA BURNS TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 12.—Tacoma's historic slide rink, scene of many a flistic encounter during the past 18 years, was completely destroyed by fire shortly after midnight this morning. The big pavilion was recently remodeled at a cost of \$5000. The loss is estimated at \$25,000. An overheated stove had been believed to have caused the blaze.

## GOMPERS STILL SERIOUSLY ILL REPORTS STATE

Turn for Worse Taken on Trip From Mexico to States; Veteran Labor Leader Is Very Weak

## PREVIOUS STATEMENTS SAID CONDITION GOOD

Bulletin at 2:00 Says "Temperature Normal, Pulse 90; Very Weak"

## HOUSE PASSES AGRICULTURAL BILL

Agricultural Bill Is Carried; \$80,000,000 Will Be Used for Roads

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The agricultural appropriation bill, carrying \$124,000,000 of which \$80,000,000 would be available for road construction, was passed today by the house. The bill, as sent to the senate, would appropriate about \$59,000,000 more than last year's measure but carries several million dollars less than the budget estimate. The bill was passed after less than two days' consideration by the house. Fewer than a dozen amendments were offered and those adopted represented only minor changes. Disposal of the agricultural bill opened the way to the house naval appropriation bill, which is slated for consideration early next week. The celebrity with which the first two appropriation bills have been disposed has encouraged floor leaders in their hope of passing the supply bill before the Christmas recess. Pending consideration of the naval bill next week the house will devote its time tomorrow to consideration of numerous bills of the calendar.

## OWENS DISMISSED FROM DRY SERVICE

Mellon States Officer Made False Affidavit for Search Warrant

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Secretary Mellon today advised the house judiciary committee that Robert J. Owens, federal prohibition agent who raided the residence of Hugo Gilbert De Fritsch in New York last August had been dismissed from the service for "deliberately making a false affidavit to procure a search warrant on a private residence." Replying to a resolution of inquiry Mr. Mellon stated that numerous complaints had been received prior to the raid, that Owens had treated persons he raided brutally and had otherwise misused his office. He said the agent broke in the door of the De Fritsch residence in the absence of the family and caretaker and found 70 cases of miscellaneous liquors in a locked vault which showed by their "old and mouldy" appearance that they had been placed there before prohibition became effective.

## LEGISLATORS TO HAVE SELECTION OF MANY WATERS

No Need of Solons to Complain of Dried Throats During 1925 Session

## HERRIOT UNCHANGED

PARIS, Dec. 11.—(By The Associated Press.)—The condition of Premier Herriot continues unchanged tonight, although the swelling in his legs had decreased. The official bulletin issued tonight by the premier's physician said: "The condition of the patient is stationary, but the pressure must continue to be placed on the mobility of the right leg."

## DAWES PLAN IS DISCUSSED

Owen D. Young, Associated With General Dawes, Returns From Europe

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—Owen D. Young, in his first public appearance since returning from Europe on November 20, tonight gave his version of the Dawes plan at a ceremonial dinner tendered him by business men of New York at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel. Mr. Young, who was associated with Charles G. Dawes, elected vice president in the German plan, the Dawes plan of reparations payments for Europe and was an interim agent general of reparations payments, said the Dawes plan itself was a "non-political," non-military plan which sought to fix the limit of the burden of taxation for debt paying purposes which Germany should be asked to impose upon her industries and which will be reasonably commensurate with the taxation which her neighbors had to impose upon the industries of Germany in order to pay their war debts. In this connection Mr. Young quoted Mr. Dawes' letter of transmittal: "More than this limit could not be expected and less than this would reflect Germany from a common hardship and give her an unfair advantage in the industrial competition of the future." Mr. Young said great credit should be given to the great banking firms which have aided in the plan through the advances to Germany both on public and private credits. These advances should continue in such amounts as may be deemed from time to time safe and wise under circumstances then existing, he said. They should not be overdone. He said the German credit situation could be made steady rather than fluctuating.

## WOULD RETURN LOOT FOR REDUCED TERM

Found Guilty of Mail Robbery; Has \$100,000 Concealed Somewhere

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—Herbert Holliday, sentenced to 25 years in the penitentiary in connection with the \$2,000,000 Rondout train holdup, tonight admitted to federal agents that he has \$100,000 of the loot concealed somewhere. He is reported to have offered to turn over the money and bonds if the sentence imposed by Judge Gliffe today is reduced. Holliday received the same sentence which was meted out to William J. Fahy, former postal inspector, and James Murray, Chicago politician, who stood trial. Holliday confessed but refused to testify for the government or admit, until today, that he had concealed any of the loot. "Surra I've got the money," he told Grant Miller, chief post office inspector, tonight, as plans were being made to start him and five others who were sentenced today to the federal penitentiary. "I've got a 25-year sentence too. Now what are you going to do about it?"

## GROWERS ASK HIGHER RATE FOR CHERRIES

Resolution Asking for Increase From 2 to 5 Cents a Pound Passed at Meeting Here Thursday

## COOPERATION WITH OTHERS ADVOCATED

Coast States Must Work Together Declares D. L. Beard, of The Dalles

General appraisers on the tariff commission ruled that pitted cherries should enter the United States on the same rate as unpitted cherries, which is 2 cents. This arrangement enabled all the maraschino interests to buy all their pitted cherries in New York at 5 cents. Consequently, the Pacific coast interests were frozen out, with no chance for competition. Mr. Beard proposed that a general conference of cherry growers in this district meet with other conferences from Washington and California early next year. At this meeting the matter of increased duty on imported cherries will be brought up and prepared for presentation to the United States tariff commission.

## Christmas Fund Reaches Nice Sum; More Received

Clothing and Supplies for Destitute Families in Salem are Much Needed

Total \$55.98