

VOTERS SCAN BILLS ON FILE

Affirmative and Negative Arguments Entered on Several Measures

Voters of Oregon, at the general election in November, will decide whether they desire to close the Rogue river to commercial fishing or continue a commercial fishing industry, which provides employment for between 75 and 100 families.

The Commercial Fisheries association, Macleay estate company and the state federation of labor, have filed arguments with the secretary of state opposing the measure which would close the river to commercial fishing.

The negative argument sets out that during 1933 fishermen on the river received \$29,229 for their catches. The sportsmen contend that more than \$12,000 of this went to non-resident fishermen. It further was contended by sportsmen that the state of Oregon spent \$10,000 for warden Clark Spenser.

Persons opposed to closing the river to commercial fishing contend that money to finance the move was provided by California millionaires, who have erected cottages along its banks and desire to spend part of the summers in Oregon.

Governor Norblad, the late Governor Patterson, Frank Kendall, ex-member of the state game commission and eight sportsmen's organizations offered support for the proposed measure.

Arguments both for and against a proposed amendment which would extend privileges under the Oregon law to all veterans who have lived in the state for a period of 10 years, also have been filed in the state department.

The negative argument was prepared by W. C. North of Portland, a former member of the state aid commission. Various veterans' organizations are supporting the amendment.

Increase of Bond Debt is Denied

North alleged in the negative argument that approval of the amendment would increase Oregon's bonded indebtedness to \$28,000,000. Persons and organizations favoring the amendment alleged that the state would not lose any money, but would actually receive a profit of \$5000. It was pointed out that more than 90 per cent of the veterans who have received loans have met their obligations, both with relation to interest and principal.

North countered with the statement that the state is now over bonded, and that additional obligations would prove a heavy burden to the taxpayers.

The question of whether Oregon localities shall be authorized to join in the creation of utility water power districts also will be determined at the November election.

The Oregon state grant is supporting this amendment, while it is being opposed in arguments filed by the Greater Oregon association and W. R. U'Ren, Portland attorney.

Approval of this amendment would allow the creation of a district board of directors of five members, who would manage, call elections, levy taxes and issue, sell or assume evidences of indebtedness in the development of water power. Sponsors of the amendment alleged that there is nothing alarming about the procedure, for the reason that the state already authorizes the creation of road improvement districts and other political subdivisions.

The Greater Oregon association contends that in creating these water districts there will be confusion and unnecessary expense. It also was alleged that the directors of the districts would have unlimited powers.

The principal argument filed against the cabinet form of government amendment is that it imposes too much power in the hands of the governor. He would appoint the heads of the nine governmental bureaus, besides having sole control of the executive department. It was alleged that this would make him a czar of the state government.

McLoughlin's Diary Tells Story of First Wheat in Valley; in 1845 Crop Was Legal Tender; Price Low in '70's

CHAMPOEG, Aug. 8.—One of the principal industries of the northwest, that of the production of grain, began with the meager amount of one bushel of spring wheat, a bushel of oats, a bushel of barley, a bushel of Indian corn and a quart of timothy which was procured from a New York factory by Dr. John McLoughlin of the Hudson's Bay company in the fall of 1825. According to McLoughlin's journal all of the crops matured well with the exception of the Indian corn for which the ground was too poor and the nights too cold.

When the servants of the Hudson's Bay company had reached the expiration of their period of servitude they were amply equipped with the necessary implements to run farms and encouraged to take up the raising of wheat. Dr. McLoughlin foresaw that the occupation of the Indians of trapping and fur trading would not last indefinitely and consequently each servant was equipped with a two-wheeled cart, oxen, plows, a cow, and necessary household furniture, which was to be paid for in wheat, then the ordinary currency of the country. The carts were to be returned, the increase kept.

Eager to Help England

In their eagerness to secure the region which is now the state of Washington, for Great Britain, the company offered a double outfit to the men who would settle north of the Columbia river. The fertility and the beauty of the Willamette valley, however proved a greater attraction to the settlers than the double outfit and more of them chose to settle here.

Wheat was the staple product of the Willamette valley, according to a History of the Willamette valley published by Himes and Lang, since the first efforts of the retired servants of the Hudson's Bay company in their crude attempt to raise the cereal. Leonard, in his statements says, that in the year 1844 these few trappers, assisted by a few Americans produced within the bounds of the valley such a quantity of wheat that there was a 100,000 bushel surplus for export.

Later in '49 when the miners of California began to look to the farmers of the Willamette valley section for their food supply, the settlers undertook to supply a large portion of the meat and breadstuffs used in the California gold fields.

Dr. McLoughlin made arrangements with the Russians of New Archangel, allowing them to trade with the Indians of Alaska, provided that he should supply that post with 15,000 bushels of wheat per year, a fact which also aided materially in building up the wheat industry of the valley.

On August 16, 1845, the legislature which met in Oregon City made wheat a legal tender at market price owing to a scarcity of circulating medium.

In the winter of 1843, Daniel Waldo sowed wheat in the Waldo Hills country and it is easily possible that this is the first wheat planted in this district which now is largely devoted to the growing of cereal grains. The first wheat grown in Polk county was near where Dallas now is. According to B. F. Nichols, it was planted by Colonel Cornelius Gilliam, who seeded ten acres of

bottom land to California spring red wheat from which he threshed and cleaned 100 bushels of red wheat.

Volunteer Wheat Used

The crop the next year was volunteer, and yielded over 25 bushels per acre of California fall, or white winter wheat. The next crop, 1848, yielded 33 bushels per acre. The white wheat that was mixed with the sowing in the first place, did not mature but spread over the ground, allowing the spring wheat to be harvested the first year, and leaving the other to grow and mature in 1847. The third was the largest crop of all and all came from one seeding.

Wheat 86c in 1878

Of interest to the farmers now is a few quotations from the history of the price of wheat. An item clipped from the Oregonian of March 9, 1878, quoting the Corvallis Gazette, says: A farmer hereabout was offered \$1.10 for his wheat but he thought it would go higher and refused. He has just sold it at \$0.86" which all goes to show that those who play the stock market aren't the only ones who are beaten, that even 52 years ago "wise" farmers thought they could make money by "hanging on." The Oregonian of January 13, 1880, quotes wheat at 86c, Polk county at \$1.02 1/2

a bushel, barley at 10.65 and oats at \$0.85. Still a later issue of November 5, 1909, gives a quotation from Pondleton at \$0.82, adding that few of the farmers received this price as most of them sold out at \$0.50. During the recent war the wheat quotations from Portland February 24, 1918, were given at \$2.05 per bushel, one of the high water marks in the wheat history of the valley.

Champoeg Once Wheat Center

John Minto in his book says: "Champoeg was the wheat port of the Pacific coast up to the flood of December 1861, commencing in 1830 at which time the wheat was exported in sacks. A clipping from the Sunday Oregonian of November 13, 1927, shows that of the 23,395,282 bushels of wheat exported from the Columbia river district from July 1 to October 31 of that year, 21,996,761 bushels was moved in bulk, thus illustrating the complete revolution and progress of the wheat industry from the few bushels of grain shipped to Dr. McLoughlin over a century ago.

DUAL CITIZENSHIP

RIO DE PANEIRO.—(AP)—Dual citizenship is possible in Brazil. Children born here of either British or Italian parents are Italian or Britons in one land, Brazilians here.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., —(AP)—E. Louise Noyes, of the Santa Barbara schools, will make a six months tour of Great Britain's public schools as winner of the Lord Balfour scholarship.

STATE DEFICIT GROWS, SHOWN

Serious Situation is Seen in Case New Taxes Held Invalid

At the close of business June 30, 1930, the state governmental activities faced a deficit of \$3,337,347.66, an increase of \$1,138,152.94 over the biennium of 1927 and 1928, according to a statement issued here Saturday from the office of Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state. The deficit at the close of the biennium December 31, 1928, was \$2,199,194.92.

The increase was occasioned by additional expenditures authorized by the state emergency board to cover general expenses of the state. These appropriations aggregated \$271,051.30. Unrecipitated revenue from the intangibles and excise tax laws pending the outcome of litigation testing the validity of these acts also contributed to the deficit, the secretary of state said.

Up to the present time the state tax commission has assessed under the provisions of the excise tax law the amount of \$647,643.67, of which amount \$423,206.09 has been paid, leaving a balance of \$224,437.58 unpaid. There has been assessed

under the intangibles law approximately \$925,219.65, with \$553,042.80 paid. The unpaid balance under this tax is \$372,176.85.

Based upon these figures the combined results of the intangibles and excise taxes has been the assessment of a total tax of \$1,570,863.32. Cash receipts aggregated \$1,003,268.39, with an unpaid balance of \$567,594.43. The proceeds of these taxes are directed toward the reduction of the property tax. In the 1930 tax levy, receipts from these two laws were estimated at \$900,000 of an under estimate of \$670,863.32. This surplus, with the addition of the estimated receipts for the year 1931, will be used to reduce the property tax for state purposes for that year.

Under existing laws the state may levy for the year 1931 a maximum of \$2,727,881.45 within the six per cent limitation, against which must be applied the proceeds from the excise and intangibles taxes which were estimated as follows:

Surplus of receipts for the year 1930 over the estimated receipts, \$670,863.32, plus estimated receipts for the year 1931 of \$2,000,000, leaving a balance to be raised by the property tax within the six per cent limitation of only \$57,018.11, as against a total of \$2,727,881.43 if the special taxes are not upheld by the courts.

A specific provision of the law authorizes that in case the laws are declared invalid the tax levying base shall be the same as if the excise and intangibles

taxes never were invoked. As a result of litigation attacking these laws the funds received through the operation of the excise and intangibles taxes have been held by the state treasurer as unrecipitated until such time as the courts pass on their validity. In case the laws are sustained by the courts the funds will be applied toward reducing the property tax. In case the laws are not sustained the funds will be disposed of as directed by the courts.

In the event the laws are held to be constitutional, the deficit of \$3,337,346.86 will be reduced by \$900,000 or to \$2,437,346.86. In case the laws are not sustained, the state treasury will be in the most precarious position in its history through the loss of \$900,000, and property taxes will be increased a sufficient amount to make up this loss.

Furthermore, if the tax collected is refunded the loss will be an actual one, and the existing deficit will seriously affect the finances of the state government.

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Jantzen's President Approves Low Oregon Power Rates

HORSE SENSE SERIES...NO. 1

JOHN ZEHNTBAUER has his feet squarely on the ground. He thinks straight—uses horse sense, in short. Thanks to him, Portland's name has gone round the world with "The suit that changed bathing into swimming." Here is what he thinks about the Oregon power situation:

"I guess our Jantzen plants use more electric power than the average industrial concern. We pay the same rates as the rest. And it amounts to a mighty little part of our expense. Now suppose we Oregon folks 'junk the powe companies' and duplicate their plants. Who pays for the new plants? Or suppose we buy the power companies. Who pays the bill? Nobody but the Oregon taxpayers, of course. Would we get lower rates? How could we? The power companies take all the risks of the business, pay Oregon stockholders' dividends, pay huge taxes to Oregon governments, and still sell power for less in Portland than it costs users almost anywhere else in America!

"That takes mighty efficient management. No municipal plan could do any more. We all know that most of them don't do as well, even though exempt from taxes and paying no stockholders' dividends.

"We are trying to get more industries for Oregon and yet some thoughtless people would destroy one of our biggest industries by short-sighted legislative measures. Personally I want to see our public utilities regulated and controlled. They are willing to submit to that. It spurs them on to greater developments. They work with the rest of us to bring more people and more business to Oregon so they can continue to grow. Oregon needs their help.

"It's only plain good business to encourage them."

John Zehntbauer

Jantzen

What Oregon needs is a dozen trade-marks as famous as this! And more level-headed leaders like John A. Zehntbauer, Jantzen Knitting Mills' President, to speak their minds. Such men see through glittering "campaign promises" and realize that prosperity and opportunity are created by sound industries, well financed—not by the mere passing of laws. Pacific Northwest Public Service Co. "Peppo"



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A. M. Clough J. Dale Taylor

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