

Minority Vote Raises Taxes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

16 voters; Eugene, 8052 children, 929 voters.

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valuation of \$1,159,619, a minority voted a total levy of \$33,108.

In Oakridge, 44 voters approved a \$122,330 levy on all property owners in the district.

Eugene 'Bad'

The largest district, of course, is Eugene, and Eugene also has had the worst proportional turnout at some elections. With a valuation of \$19,409,052 and 8,052 children between 5 and 19 years old, a very small minority (estimated at 2 per cent of the voters) decreed at a recent election that the school district could impose \$1,012,849 in taxes on all property owners in the Eugene district.

School election voters (property owners) are warned of a budget election 20 days in advance. Notice time for bond elections is 15 days; for consolidation elections it is 10 days.

Others Too
In the Alvadore school district and in Crow the minority of voters authorized taxes of \$2914 and \$1911 respectively.

It was observed by the county schools office, however, that turnouts sometimes are much greater when the arrival of school tax statements coincides with one of the school elections.

It is believed that the name "Nickel" derives from Kupfer-Nickel, meaning "Old Nick's Copper," given to the metal by early-day miners in Saxony because it was difficult to smelt and work.

Timber, Log Assessment Time Ruling Sought by Lane County

An outstanding problem of the county assessor is when to assess timber and logs—after they are cut and before they are hauled from the woods—while they are in the pond before being scaled—or after they are scaled?

The question came to a head in a hearing before the State Tax Commission in Salem Thursday. The issue was Lane County's assessment of logs on Hines Lumber Co. property near Westfir last Jan. 1. The logs were figured as \$87,000 worth of personal property.

Hines Lumber Co. purchased the timber from the federal government but, they contend, they had not completed the purchase Jan. 1 because the logs had not been scaled (measured) as stipulated in their purchase contract.

County Assessor George Stock, however, asserted that the logs were in possession of the lumber company because all contractors of government timber are required to pay a deposit on government timber before they cut it, and keep the deposit up to a certain amount as they continue to cut. They finish payment after the logs are scaled by government men.

Stock's View
Stock therefore contended before the commission Thursday that the logs were in legal possession of the lumber company although they had not finished payment to the government Jan. 1 on the timber in question.

The logs in question were in the company's pond and "cold deck" on Jan. 1 preliminary to being scaled before being cut up in the mill.

First Time
Stock said that this question has never come up before because the scaling point is usually in the woods. The government and company agreed to move the scaling point to Westfir at the mill because the government trains scalers there, he explained.

Stock alleged that the company wanted the scaling point moved "so that they could avoid taxes when we assessed their personal property Jan. 1."

Will Decide
The State Tax Commission will hand down an opinion on this matter in about a week, Stock said. The assessor had previously been upheld by the county Board of Equalization (composed of the county court, county clerk and the county assessor).

The matter will probably be taken to the State Supreme Court by the assessor's office if the tax commission ruling is not in the county's favor, said Stock. He also assumed that the log company would carry it to the high court if the decision was not in their favor.

"We want a definite ruling on this matter," the assessor remarked, "so we will know how to proceed in the future."

Democrat Officers Refuse to Quit Posts

PORTLAND — (AP) — Democratic State Central Committee officers refused flatly Saturday to step down from their posts, and the former chairman rejected the demand of Democratic National Committeeman Lew Wallace to call a new election.

Byron G. Carney, Milwaukie, elected chairman at a meeting Wallace contends was invalid, lashed back by calling Wallace a "Repubocrat."

Henry Aiken, Heppner, former committee chairman, said he would not call a new election to replace the May 17 one in which only 38 votes were cast and Wallace's proxies thrown out. Wallace demanded a new election after being notified by the attorney-general's office that 78 members are needed for a quorum and that proxy votes must be admitted.

"I can't see any sense in it," said Aiken. "Carney has been recognized in Washington, D. C. (by the Democratic National Committee.) I wouldn't ask anybody to come in again and spend their money just to humor Wallace."

Carney declared in a prepared statement that Wallace's proxies were ruled out by the credentials committee because some of them were not valid. He charged that Wallace "as usual, is working with his Republican friends to rule or ruin the Oregon Democratic organization."

Next to the United States Sweden uses the telephone more than any other country.



EMMANUEL JUNQUIST, wealthy uncle of Louise Overell, testifies at Santa Ana, Calif., during her trial on charges of murdering her parents. He said he once read this line in a diary: "I get so mad at my mother I could kill her." (AP Wirephoto)

During World War II four out of five cotton spinning machines outside the United States were either cut off from cotton supplies entirely or reduced to producing a mere fraction of their capacity.

Strange Odor Assists Thief

HUNTINGTON, W. VA. — (AP) — Police were asked Saturday to look out for a dark-complexioned woman smelling of citronella oil who, a Huntington housewife said, seemed to have bewitched her into parting with her silverware.

The housewife, Mrs. Pearl Hayes told police "I couldn't bring myself around to stopping" the woman whose odor of aromatic salve and citronella "seemed to get into my nose and stay there."

The woman, Mrs. Hayes said, appeared at her front door, and after much conversation asked if she would "like to have her fortune told and her valuables blessed."

Then the unbidden guest whipped out a handkerchief exuding the strange perfume and, in Mrs. Hayes' words, "I just let her in; I didn't seem to have the power to keep her out."

She remained powerless when

the visitor asked to "bless" silverware, promptly placed in a bathtub with a large supply of water and disappeared.

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Meteor Displays Due Again As Perseids Swarm in Sky

By J. HUGH PRUETT
Eugene Astronomer

So spectacular was the magnificent shower of "shooting stars" on that memorable early evening of last October that it seems almost a celestial antilimax ever again to mention such mild displays as the annual August meteors.

Many meteor observers of this century had often wished that some time the heavens would "break loose" and "falling stars" would scatter with real abandon. That wish was surely fulfilled in the Draconid shower of last fall.

The season of the Perseid meteors is again with us. Although they never appear in exciting profusion, they are dependable and return from year to year in about equal numbers. Some may be seen in late July, but they are at their best usually from Aug. 10 to 13. From Constellation

These meteors are called Perseids because they seem to radiate from the constellation Perseus, which early in the evening at this time of year is low in the north northeast.

But one does not need to look in that direction to see them. They may be observed in any part of the sky, and have longer apparent paths in a direction opposite the radiant. Many may be seen

in the evening, but the greatest numbers are visible before dawn, when they average 80 to 90 per hour at the time of maximum.

Steady Work
Casual glances at the sky are always disappointing. To get real counts, the observer should be in a reclining chair in a dark place, and keep his eyes constantly on the sky for a considerable period of time.

The term "shooting stars" is of course rather misleading. They are such in appearance only. Real stars are immense suns, the nearest known being 25 trillion miles from us. Meteors are small particles of matter, visible usually between 50 and 70 miles above the earth.

Heat Lights Up
They come as dark objects from outer space, and, traveling at enormous speeds, become luminous when heated by friction with our atmosphere. The smaller ones are burned entirely to ash long before reaching the ground.

The Perseids travel in the orbit of the great comet of 1862 (Tuttle's) and are the debris from its disintegration.

Pass Through
In August each year, the earth in its annual trip around the sun arrives at the place on its orbit which crosses the orbit of the meteors. The swarm is millions of miles thick and it takes some time for us to pass through it.

Each luminous flash we see announces the extinction of a particle of matter. That one has come too close to the earth and will never again race around the sun with its fellows. Many that do not get tangled in our atmosphere this year may never do so, but some of them will be meteors for us next year or many years from now.

Strayed

THAT'S the way it is with health. Gone almost before you can realize what's happened. Fortunately, though, there's a man who can help you in finding your missing health. We aren't saying just who—but look for the initials M. D., after his name.

Yes, you'd better go see your Doctor—and don't be too long about it. He'll know just how to plan the search for your missing health.

Naturally, we don't know what your Doctor may advise, but perhaps, as he writes a prescription, he may suggest that you bring it here for careful compounding!

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