

CITY TAX LEVY PROBABLY 14.8

SIX PER CENT LIMIT
LAW APPLIES.

Tax Commission Advises That Addition of New Territory to City Does Not Change Situation—Council Will Act Tonight.

That the 1917 tax levy of the city of Bend should be confined to an amount not more than six per cent over the levy for the year 1916, irrespective of the fact that the boundaries of the city now include a territory larger than before, is the substance of the opinion given by the State Tax Commission to the council through County Assessor Mullarkey. The question had been put up to the commission by the council in the hope that a larger amount could be raised by having the area that paid last year's tax take an increase of six per cent and the rest of the city, taken in since the 1916 tax was levied, pay at the same rate.

With this question settled, the determination of the city tax for this year takes itself out of the realm of estimates and conjecture and becomes a simple matter of applying the six per cent limitation law to the figures of last year's tax. Under that law the city may not "raise a greater amount of revenue for purposes other than the payment of bonded indebtedness or interest thereon than the total amount levied by it in the year immediately preceding for purposes other than the payment of bonded indebtedness or interest thereon plus six per centum thereof." Last year the city raised \$9,782.10, of which \$2,500 was interest on the \$60,000 issue of sewer bonds. The balance, or \$8,182.10, may be increased this year by six per cent, or \$370.92, making the maximum levy possible for "purposes other than the payment of bonded indebtedness or interest thereon" \$5,553.02.

In the past year the city has added to its bonded debt \$35,000 railway terminal bonds at six per cent and \$17,500 warrant refunding bonds at six per cent, making with the sewer bond interest, a total interest charge to be met by the city of \$6,750, and not affected by the limitation law. The total of this interest fund and the general purpose fund is \$13,303.02, which is apparently all that can be raised.

The city valuation is \$896,656, and with \$13,303.02 to be raised in taxes it seems apparent that the levy will be 14.8. Last year's levy was 18 mills.

The matter will come before the council at its regular meeting tonight and final disposition be made of it.

The Commission Letter.
The letter from the State Tax Commission with its decision in the matter is as follows:

"It is our opinion, under the Tax Limitation amendment to the Constitution of Oregon, the 1917 tax levy of the city of Bend should be confined to an amount exceeding by no more than six per cent the amount (Continued on page 4.)

Age Is Questioned; Boy Enlists Rather Than Be A Slacker

Because William Ross, when arrested Saturday night for violating a city ordinance, said that he was 22 years of age, yet could show no registration card, he was advised to enlist in the United States army at once. When Ross was brought before Judge H. C. Ellis yesterday, his father, E. Ross, testified that the boy was only 19 years old. Rather than have the matter questioned further, the young man said he was willing to enlist and left last night for Vancouver.

CLUB WORK IS TO BE PUSHED

CHILDREN TO HAVE ASSISTANCE
IN INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS—MORE FOOD PRODUCTION HOPED FOR THIS YEAR.

Returning from two state educational meetings yesterday, County School Superintendent J. Alton Thompson brought with him numerous plans for systematizing the work of the pupils in such lines as industrial clubs and other beneficial enterprises. While absent from Bend he attended the gathering of the school superintendents from all over the state, who met with the superintendent of public instruction in Salem. Here new laws regarding certification, taxation for support of the schools and equalization for the various districts were discussed.

The matter of equalizing the finances received considerable attention and the meeting went on record as favoring some step of this sort which might be taken at the next session of the legislature. Should the matter pass, some sections of this county would be benefited. For instance, according to Mr. Thompson, the school beyond Hemsted Valley has neither teacher nor pupils this year, although a number of children have recently moved into the district. The reason for this is that the district received no money when it was partitioned on November 25, there being no pupils there at the time.

Gathering at Corvallis.
From Salem the instructors went on to Corvallis, where the county superintendents held a convention with the industrial club managers of the state. The question of a more systematic organization of club enterprises was taken up. As a result information needed by the children will be sent them more promptly than heretofore and the work will be on a more businesslike basis. Two state agents have been appointed to visit the counties and look over the work. By special request they will come to Crook and Deschutes counties during the summer.

Mr. Thompson now has information on potato growing ready for the pupils. In previous years this has often come in May, when it is too late to do any good. Each year it came a little earlier until now it may be had in plenty of time to be of use.

It is thought that vastly larger quantities of food will be produced this year on account of the war. The county superintendents are of the opinion that by encouraging the children to assist in food production they have found a much better way of reaching the parents.

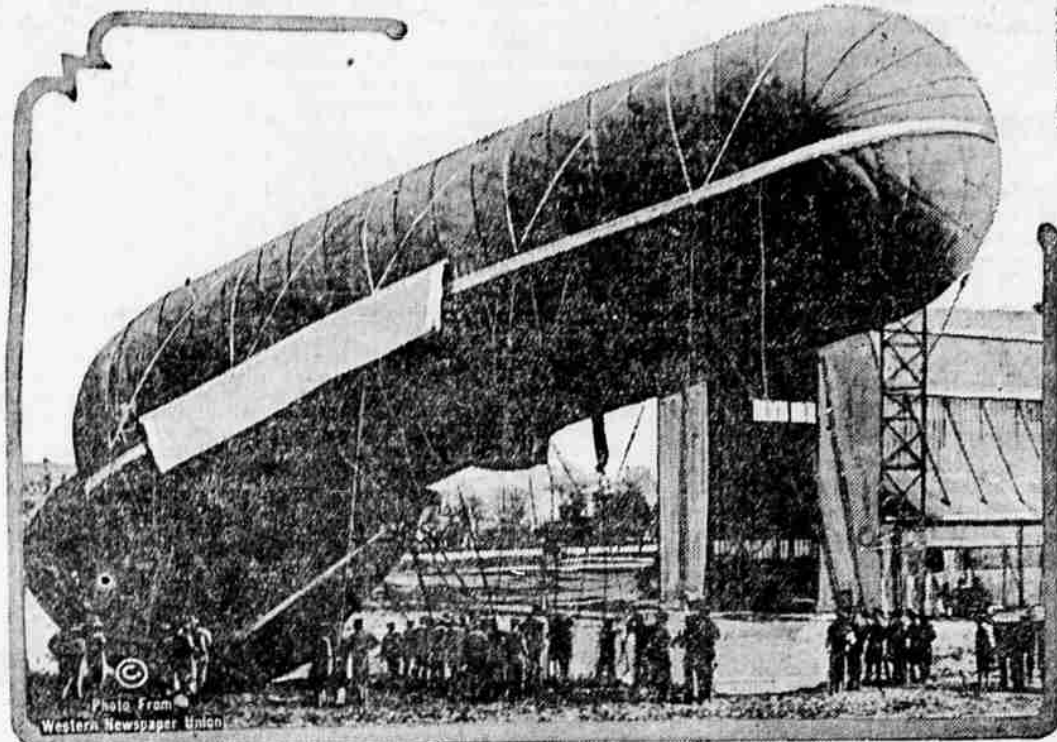
ANOTHER OFFENSIVE BEGUN IN ARABIA

British Capture Turkish Garrison—Germans Raid Post at Flesquières on West Front.

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)
LONDON, Jan. 8.—The third British offensive expedition has been started against the Turks, according to an announcement made here today. Fighting has begun near Shankin, in Arabia, where the British captured the entire force of men and equipment of the garrison.

Artillery fire has continued actively at Bullecourt and Passchendaele. The Germans raided a British post at Flesquières.

LEARNING HOW TO HANDLE THE SAUSAGE BALLOON



Students in one of the American army balloon schools learning how to handle the huge sausage balloons that are so useful for observation purposes.

Jack Knives Tooth Paste Substitute In Trenches

Jack knives instead of tooth paste are the style in the trenches, according to a letter which Mrs. Genevieve MacLaurin has just received from a nephew, Donald, now in France. Mr. MacLaurin enlisted from Branford, Ontario. He is not the Donald MacLaurin, of Bend, who is now at Mare Island.

The letter reads:
"I received your letter a few days ago, and last night received the first box of cake, and tonight the 'fags,' and you don't know how pleased I am to have them come so soon. Everything was O. K. The tooth paste will also be a treat, for generally we just scrape our teeth with our jack knife, as we can't always get those little things just when we are in need of them. The cake was great."

"We are still on rest, so Fritz won't get a chance to get any of the things."
"I had a letter from home today enclosing one of yours dated October 31. That was Hallowe'en. It is a day I will never forget. It was raining pretty steady, and believe me, the stuff was flying as fast as I ever saw it, and then some. That night

the Boches buried me right up and cut my bayonet in half, but a chap was handy, as luck would have it, and got us uncovered in time, but believe me I was pretty shaky. I sent my broken bayonet home along with some more things I picked up. I will try and get some more buttons. I had a pocket full, along with some Fritz shoulder straps with their numbers on, but laid my coat down to go on a run, and when I came back some one had rolled it. The bayonet, I sure treasure, for it is a real souvenir, I think. It will bring back memories, anyway."

"I am very much interested in the aviation over here, for they are very keen on Canadian pilots, but I don't think there is much chance of transferring out of this battalion, especially in France. The only thing is one has to go in for a period of four years. Of course, it includes the time one has served in any branch of the service during the war. I would have nearly two more years to put in it anyway, and maybe the war would be over before that time was up, so I might be out of luck to get home when it was over. But I think I would do it if I thought there was any chance of transferring."

DELAYED DRIVE IS EXPLAINED BY BAKER

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8.—A gigantic thrust, probably the Teutons' greatest assault of the war is impending, according to Secretary Baker's weekly review of the war. He said that in it the Germans will be sure to strain every remaining ounce of strength, and held that the delay in the drive forecasted weeks ago was due to the time necessary in order to mass German forces and supplies.

EARL READING NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)
LONDON, Jan. 8.—Universal satisfaction has been expressed over the selection of Earl Reading as high commissioner and special ambassador to America. This is almost a revolutionary step, as Reading is Jewish. This is the first time the second highest judicial official has been requisitioned for purely political and business affairs.

HOLIDAY MAIL IN THE TRENCHES



French soldiers in the trenches made happy by holiday letters from the loved ones at home.

PEACE AIMS ARE STATED IN CONGRESS

TEUTON NEGOTIATIONS
ARE SCORED.

WILL FIGHT TO END

Russian Terms Prompt Speech—Wilson States Objects of American Participation in the War Clearly and Concisely.

By Robert J. Bender,
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8.—In unquestionable terms, President Wilson, at a joint session of Congress, which opened at 12:30 this afternoon, stipulated the American war aims. These he said the nation will continue to struggle for until they are accomplished.

He stated that "the compelling voice of the Russian people, asking for a definition of the American principles," had prompted his speech. It was directed largely to Russia and in it the sinister tactics of the German rulers were scored. Wilson demanded that light be shed on all future negotiations and treaties and reiterated his demand for the territorial adjustments needed to insure peace. His terms outlined a scheme for open covenants which could be reached openly and which would be hampered by no ensuing secret treaties.

Aims Given Briefly.
The aims as briefly and concisely stated by the president are:
Freedom of the seas in both times of peace and war, except when they are closed by international action for the enforcement of international covenants.

Trade equality among the nations
(Continued on Page 2.)

CONSCRIPTION LOSES; MINISTRY RESIGNS

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)
MELBOURNE, Jan. 8.—The entire Australian cabinet resigned today as a result of the recent defeat of the conscription bill. Honorable Tudor, the former trade minister, has asked to form a new ministry.

WATER POWER BILL IS READY

EMBODIES IDEAS OF WILSON,
LANE AND LEADING CONSERVATIONISTS—PUBLIC RIGHTS
WOULD BE PRESERVED.

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8.—The administration water power and power development bill, to increase the navigability of streams and coordinate rail and water transportation and tremendously expand the national resources by harnessing the streams, is now ready for introduction. It embodies the ideas of President Wilson, Secretary Lane and the leading conservationists.

Through it they seek to settle the 10-year fight over the control of the streams and by it will preserve public rights perpetually but at the same time give the public the benefits of their development under the direction of a commission comprising the secretaries of war, interior and agriculture with an executive officer at the head, who is to be named by the President. This man would be empowered to license construction of dams, reservoirs and power sites for the next 50 years with a rental fee to be paid to the government.
It also gives the government the right to commandeer power plants wanted for the manufacture of explosives.

PUPILS TO BUY THRIFT STAMPS

MONTHLY REPORT WILL BE PREPARED SHOWING SALES OF WAR SAVINGS STICKERS—\$1,000,000 IS SET AS MARK.

A thrift drive will soon begin in the schools of Oregon. The slogan of the campaign will be "A Million Dollars in War Savings by the Children of Oregon Before the Close of this School Year." War savings and certificate stamps will be distributed through the office of each county superintendent, who will report in turn to the state headquarters. The matter was first suggested at the recent meeting of these officials in Salem.

County School Superintendent J. Alton Thompson brought the plan back with him on his return from the Willamette valley. Today he is compiling a list of teachers, their addresses and the number of pupils each has under her, preparatory to beginning work.

In order that the public may know what the children are doing, a monthly statement of the sales of government savings stamps will be made up. Plans are not yet completed so that the method of distribution has not been arranged for.

LAND IS RETURNED TO STATE BY COURT

(By United Press to The Bend Bulletin.)
SALEM, Or., Jan. 8.—The supreme court today ruled on six of the seven Hyde land cases, restoring 9130 acres of land to the state. The judges held that approximately 24,000 acres had been obtained fraudulently, but their title had passed to the government. The Klamath case was delayed in the appeal, so remains undecided.
The amount of acreage restored to the state in the various counties is as follows: Crook, 3890.31; Linn, 600; Jackson, 2360; Lane, 160; Clackamas, 1360; Hood River, 760. The court commended the work of Attorney-General Brown. The decision says that the conspiracy to defraud the state was clearly defined.

ORDER SATISFIES PRESIDENT STANLEY

Returning from Portland yesterday, Fred S. Stanley, president of the C. O. I. Co., stated that his company was perfectly satisfied with the order made by the Public Service Commission and confirmed the announcement made by Mr. Stearns to the effect that the order would not be fought. He insisted, however, that the commission had no jurisdiction of the case. The company will now, according to Mr. Stanley, request all settlers to pay up their back maintenance on the company's order by making in the commission's order by making it possible for the company to establish a sinking fund.

DISCUSS SQUAW CREEK PETITION

HEARING ON FORMATION OF IRRIGATION COMPANY SET FOR TOMORROW—WILL EFFECT 12000 ACRES OF LAND.

Tomorrow at 10 o'clock in the morning the county court will give a hearing on the petition of settlers to form the Squaw Creek Irrigation Company. At this time the advisability of holding an election for such purpose will be considered and a date fixed.

The district which would form the company is composed of 12,000 acres of land, 7500 of which are already under irrigation. Practically every settler in the territory has signed the petition, which contains about 40 names. All are residents in the vicinity of Cloverdale and Sisters.