

INSTRUCTION ON TAXES

TAX COMMISSION COMMUNICATES WITH SHERIFF ORR.

After October 5 Delinquent Taxes Must Be Collected in Polk County.

Instructions which were received by Sheriff John Orr yesterday from the state tax commission inform him that sections 2 and 3 of chapter 156, of the 1915 session laws, amending sections 3683 and 3687, Lord's Oregon laws, are now in effect, and that therefore the tax collector should make his annual statement and tax return, and also proceed to collect delinquent taxes on or immediately after October 5, next, instead of September 1 as heretofore.

Advising the sheriff regarding other matters of procedure in tax collections for the current year, the tax commission says:

"Where one-half of the 1914 taxes on any property was paid before April 1, 1915, the second half may be paid any time before October 1, 1915, without penalty or interest; if the second half it not so paid it will become delinquent on October 1, and be then subject to a penalty of 10 per cent and interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum from said date.

"Where one-half was not paid before April 1, 1915, a penalty of one per cent for each calendar month or part thereof, on the total amount unpaid, commencing during the period beginning April 1 and ending August 31, 1915. For illustration, if a tax bill as charged on the roll totals \$100 and the full amount is paid in the month of August, a penalty of 5 per cent (\$5) is to be added thereto. These cumulative penalties are not to be collected on or after September 1, 1915, being superseded on that date by the penalties and interest applicable to delinquent taxes.

"Where one-half of the 1914 taxes on any property was not paid before April 1, 1915, the entire amount unpaid will become delinquent on September 1, 1915, and be then subject to a penalty of 10 per cent and interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum. For instance, the taxes as originally charged on a certain property amount to \$100; if paid in full on September 15, 1915, the total amount required would be \$110.50, a penalty of 10 per cent (\$10) and interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum for 15 days (\$0.50) being added to the original tax.

"Section 1 of chapter 156, laws of 1915, amending section 3682, Lord's Oregon laws, and providing in part that 'The first half of all taxes legally levied and charged shall be paid on or before the fifth day of April following, and the second half on or before the fifth day of October following.' has no application whatever to taxes charged on tax rolls of the year 1914. Said section will become effective in 1916 and apply in the payment of taxes to be charged on the 1915 rolls."

PEACHES OF HIGH QUALITY.

Howe Farm Yields Beautiful Fruit in Large Quantity.

The peach crop here, although Polk county lands are not extensively planted to that very edible fruit, is of better quality than it has been for a number of years, past, but the yield is a little less than usual, according to W. R. Howe, whose peach orchard is his particular pride and hobby. Mr. Howe has a three-acre tract, planted to peaches a number of years ago by his father, and he is now gathering some very fine fruit. His crop comes a little later than those of the river orchards and for his selected fruit he receives \$1 a crate. For the remainder the price is about \$1.50 a bushel.

On the river banks between Salem and Independence there are a number of peach orchards, but in this part of the county the Howe orchard is the only one of importance. Practically the entire crop of peaches is sold in Dallas and even then merchants have to ship some fruit in. Disease does not trouble the fruit and to look at the huge and perfect specimens from the Howe orchards it would seem that at least certain spots in the county are peculiarly adapted to peach culture. Crops are uniformly good and prices are fair, so that many more orchardists could profitably undertake the growing of peaches.

From Ale House to Celery Farm.

John R. Cooper of Independence, who now conducts a "thirst parlor," is planning to develop 21 acres of beaver dam land near Medical Springs into a celery ranch after his business is closed up at the end of this year. He has another 180 acres of land near the beaver dam land which he also plans to put into cultivation. He believes that considerable success can be met with in the development of the celery ranch. Mr. Cooper also owns one of the best hop ranches in the Independence section.

Doesn't Want Much, Gets Less.

A new use has been found, or at least suggested, for the conscience fund, which now amounts to nearly \$500,000. A letter to Secretary McAdoo of the treasury, was recently received from a woman in Oklahoma, who described herself as the wife of a farmer. She said that as the conscience fund didn't really belong to the government she thought \$1000

should be sent to her, as she wanted to buy two cows, an automobile and a set of false teeth.

"All of which articles, as you know, Mr. Secretary," she continued, "are essentials on a farm."

The name of the writer is withheld. So is the money.

HIMES CASE HEARD BY COURT.

Judge Belt Rendered Decision on Demurrer Yesterday.

The injunction suit of Voth vs. Polk county, et al, to prevent delivery of county warrants for certain services rendered by the Himes Engineering company, was argued before Circuit Judge Belt on a demurrer to the complaint, raising the question as to whether the plaintiff had legal capacity to bring suit in his own name. It is contended by counsel for the defense that the suit should have been brought under the name of Mr. Canfield, county surveyor. Attorneys have submitted written briefs on the question of the demurrer and the court rendered its decision yesterday, overruling the demurrer. The case will be tried on its merits.

It is to be understood that this decision does not settle the question on its merits, as the case is not yet at issue on question of facts.

NO FOREST FIRES NEAR DALLAS

Smolder at Old Martin Mill Demands Attention From Warden.

The smoke that hangs heavy over the city is not from forest fires in this vicinity, according to W. V. Fuller, supervising warden of the Polk County Fire Patrol association. Mr. Fuller says the smoky atmosphere is quite common at this time of year and is almost as much haze as smoke. The only fire reported near Dallas lately was that at the old Martin mill, on Salt Creek, where a fire of two weeks ago was not entirely extinguished. Late last week the blaze and smolder demanded the attention of the wardens who drowned it out by pumping water from the creek. This was not serious and made no smoke, says Mr. Fuller. Sunday the atmosphere was so dense at the national guard range that rifle practice was ineffective and was abandoned before the work had been completed.

SALEM CAR KILLS WOMAN.

Members of Family in Carriage All Are Injured.

In a collision at Salem late Sunday night, between a streetcar and a carriage, Mrs. Casper Andregg was instantly killed, and her husband and three children and Arthur Ghener were injured. The family were returning from a visit to their home at the corner of Center and Seventh streets, when the car going down Center street crashed into the vehicle. Mr. Andregg saw the car and made an effort to stop, but without success. Casper Andregg, Jr., sustained a broken arm and a broken shoulder blade.

The Dustless Highways.

After having visited Benton, Lim and Lane counties by automobile one may more fully appreciate the good roads of Polk county. While the main traveled roads within those counties are in fairly good condition, "dust holes" are annoying through the absence of oil, even the well macadamized highways being effected to some extent. It is universally mentioned among automobilists who have traveled through Polk county that the roads here are considered to be the best in the valley. Tourists who have gone north or south by way of the west side highways invariably return by the same route, they appreciating the dustless roads they find in Polk county, which extend a short distance into Benton.

WOULD DESTROY HOP HOUSES.

Attempt Made to Burn Remaining Buildings of Japanese.

Saturday night the watchman employed by Frank Mitoma, wealthy Japanese hopgrower near Independence, discovered three men endeavoring to set fire to the drying-houses on Mitoma's ranch. The watchman shot at the men and they fled. On August 10 six large hophouses on the Mitoma place were totally destroyed by fire, supposedly of incendiary origin. Only three of the entire group of buildings were saved from the conflagration, and these are the ones endangered Saturday night.

Young Ladies Have Long Hike.

More than the usual perseverance has been shown by three young ladies who arrived in Dallas last evening after a walk of 265 miles. They are Miss Minnie Jeske, a Junction City school teacher, Miss Mabel Jeske and Miss Clara Nielsen, Junction City high school girls. They have been on the road about a month and have thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the various coast resorts. They went over the mountains from Junction City to Florence and followed down the coast to Newport, from where they are returning to their home through Dallas. The longest distance traveled in a single day was 25 miles, between Yachats and Newport. Fred W. Vogler of Portland picked the young ladies up about 25 miles from Dallas yesterday afternoon and brought them into the city in his car. The girls remained with friends in the city over night.

Dr. and Mrs. Starbuck enjoyed an outing of several days this week at Tillamook.

Observer want ads, do the biz.

TAFT URGES DEFENSE.

Following are some crisp sentences from ex-President Taft's address before the Portland Press club on Sunday last:

"When we consider what our lack of preparation is and how near to controversy we are, it ought to give us pause. It is not material whether we differ with the administration on its past conduct of the Mexican situation, it is sufficient to know that we will handle it in the future."

"We need a navy equal to any single naval power in the world, except Great Britain. We must all stand back of the administration in its plans for national defense."

"A foreign foe won't dare to come to our shore until it has swept our navy from the seas."

"The idea that our coast defenses can be destroyed by a hostile navy is all poppycock."

"Our army is very weak. We haven't officers enough for an adequate army. We need another West Point."

"This country has been having too easy a time. We must be willing to bear the burden of extra taxation to provide national defense."

"We don't want an army and navy to wage a war of aggression, but to defend our national honor."

SIGNALS FROM AIR CRAFT.

Soot Clouds, Mirror Flashes and Torch Bombs Are Used.

To an army commander the value of a military aeroplane is its power to locate hostile artillery and direct gunfire rather than its bomb dropping possibilities. Thus it is very necessary that a pilot several thousand feet in the air should be able to communicate with the headquarters staff on earth so that he may convey the necessary information for the guidance of gunners hurling shells at targets miles ahead which they cannot see.

A very ingenious method of signaling from an aeroplane is by means of soot clouds. An apparatus filled with lampblack rests near the hand of the aviator, and when he presses a lever some of this soot passes down a pipe and is discharged in a black cloud. The pipe is so delicately arranged that the clouds may be small or large. The operator can spell out the Morse telegraphic code in little clouds, and they can be read from the earth when the aviator is 4,000 feet high.

Another clever means of signaling from air craft is that carried out by means of lamps and mirrors. A lamp which has a flash of 10,000 candle power sends piercing rays of light through a tube fitted with powerful magnifying glasses. When a message is sent the operator directs his flasher in the required direction, presses a button, and a brilliant light flashes out, long or short, according to the pressure. The officers on earth receive the message and may send a reply in the same way, being provided with similar mirrors and lamps. The rays of light sent out are almost as bright as sunlight, so that they can be seen with the naked eye for a distance of four miles in the daytime and at night for a distance of eight miles.

When military aviators wish to drop a written communication to the earth without descending they utilize an ingenious bomb. This contains the document, and the projectile is weighted so that it falls sharp end first. As the end strikes the ground a trigger is released, which sets fire to a torch on top, and thus the location of the bomb is indicated day or night.—Pearson's Weekly.

GRADED THE HASH.

High Cost of Living in the Early Days in California.

The high cost of living? Bless you, you don't know the first thing about high prices in these days. Compared with what Mark Twain, Horace Greeley and others used to pay for a square meal in California's early days, your eight course dinner at Astorbill or Cherry's is really a cheap affair.

But all who frequented the famous old El Dorado hotel at Hangtown (now Placerville, Cal.) paid these prices, and gladly. Those were the palmy days of pioneer life, when the hash was graded in two classes—"low grade" and "18 carat." Here is the way the menu ran:

Bean	.....	\$1.00
Oxtail (short)	.....	1.50
Beef, Mexican (prime cut)	.....	1.50
Beef, Upalong	.....	1.00
Beef, with one fair sized potato	.....	1.25
Beef, lame, from the states	.....	1.50
Vegetables	.....	.75
Baked beans, plain	.....	1.00
Baked beans, grassed	.....	1.50
Two potatoes, medium sized	.....	.50
Two potatoes, peeled	.....	.75
Entrées	.....	1.00
Sauerkraut	.....	1.00
Bacon, fried	.....	1.50
Bacon, stuffed	.....	1.50
Hash, low grade	.....	1.50
Hash, 18 carat	.....	1.50
Game	.....	.75
Codfish balls, per pair	.....	1.00
Grizzly, roast	.....	1.50
Grizzly, fried	.....	.75
Jack rabbit, whole	.....	1.50
Pastries	.....	.75
Rice pudding, plain	.....	1.00
Rice pudding with molasses	.....	1.00
Rice pudding with brandied peaches	.....	2.00
Square meal with dessert		2.00
Payable in advance		
Gold scales on end of the bar		

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GUNPOWDER IN WAR.

For Centuries Its Use Was Opposed in the Name of Humanity.

There was a period when any kind of "explosive" fighting in war was considered barbarous. The discovery of gunpowder put a stop to the old fashioned method of attack, in which only missiles and sharp edged weapons were considered ethical, but gunpowder did not come into approval without a struggle. In fact, it was under the "humanity" ban for almost three centuries.

This remarkable compound of saltpeter, sulphur and charcoal, which was given its first tryout at the siege of Constantinople in 1453, had been known to both the chemist and the soldier for a hundred years or more. It is said to have been discovered by Roger Bacon in England about the year 1200 and by a German monk named Schwarz twenty years later. Another independent discoverer of the same dangerous mixture was an unknown and uncelebrated Moor, whose secret was ultimately carried into Europe in the fourteenth century. Even he was not the first to make an explosive compound. The Chinese "beat him to it," having used this same kind of mixture for rocket signals before the Christian era.

The fall of Constantinople was brought about by the use, the wholly unethical and altogether barbarous use, of cannon balls, and it was not until about a century later that the world gave its full sanction to the killing of men by means of gunpowder.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

WHISPERING GALLERIES.

Old World Churches With Remarkable Acoustic Properties.

The most celebrated whispering gallery is that which surrounds the base of the interior of the dome of St. Paul's cathedral, London. A person speaking near its surface can be heard distinctly by one listening near the smooth wall at the other extremity of the diameter, but not elsewhere.

In the cathedral of Gloucester a whispering passage leads from one aisle to the opposite behind the east window of the choir. It is seventy-five feet long, six and a half feet high and three feet wide in the form of half an irregular octagon. The walls and ceilings are of freestone, and the slightest whisper travels from end to end.

The cathedral of the Taj Mahal in Agra, India, has most marvelous echoes and reverberating qualities, but is scarcely a whispering gallery. The whole cathedral of Girgenti, in Sicily, has this character owing to the peculiar structure of its walls. These remarkable properties also belonged to the "Ear of Dionysius," cut in the rock at Syracuse in the shape of a parabolic curve, ending in an elliptical arch. It is said that the tyrant seated in a small chamber over a hundred feet from the spot occupied by his captives by this means could hear every word spoken by his prisoners.—London Answers.

If Animals Could Speak.

It is a startling fact that if some animals could tell their life history they would be able to recall events which happened hundreds of years ago. A Russian eagle, for instance, would be able to remember watching with greedy eyes as one by one the French soldiers under Napoleon fell exhausted out of the ranks in their awful retreat from Moscow in 1812. There are crocodiles alive in India today which saw the first English traveler set foot there, while there are whales in the sea which may have skirted the coast of France when it was invaded in 1415. A great many elephants could recall historical events of a hundred years ago, while there are ravens still living whose memory could go back twice that period.—London Answers.

Plenty of Room.

The young man who writes verses was standing out in the night gazing at the sky when a friend ran across him.

"What are you doing—studying astronomy?"

"Go away and don't disturb me. I am gazing into infinite distance."

"I don't see what satisfaction you find in that."

"That's because you never had any experience with editors. You don't know what a comfort it is to find some place where nothing is crowded out for lack of space."—London Tit-Bits.

The Amethyst.

A good example of one of the ways in which magical properties became attributed to natural objects is the stone known as amethyst. The ancient Indian name of this stone had the sound represented by its present name. In Greek this sound happens to mean "anti-wine," hence, without more ado, the ancients declared that the amethyst was a preventive of and a cure for drunkenness.—London Mail.

Idle Dream.

"Poor dad! Sister told him that the girls of her class are going to graduate in dollar gowns."

"Well, what about poor dad?"

"He thinks a dollar is all he will be called upon to give up."—Kansas City Journal.

Two Sides.

Willis—Why don't you go to church? Gills—Too far. Why don't you go? Willis—We live next door to one, and I hate to get all dressed up just to go that little way.—Boston Journal.

There Are Exceptions.

"We are all born equal," quoted the wise guy.

"Don't try to tell that to the mother of a first baby," cautioned the simple mug.—Philadelphia Record.



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