

Proposed Oregon Tax Law

(Continued from last week)

(Statement of county expenses to be certified to secretary of state.)

Section 6. That section 3088 of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Belanger and William W. Cotton, be and the same hereby is amended to read as follows:

By the 10th of January of each year the county clerk of the several counties in the state shall prepare, upon a blank form prescribed and furnished by the secretary of state, a concise tabulated statement of all the expenses of his county for the preceding year, except expenses for roads and highways, and except the sums paid for the erection of public houses, or on account of pestilence of epidemics, which statement shall be certified to him as such county clerk and forwarded to the secretary of state, and a duplicate thereof be placed on file in his own office.

(The only change is to require the statement to be filed by the 10th instead of the 15th of January, and to except costs of court houses, pestilence, or epidemics from the expense statement. As the appropriation must after 1919 be made on the basis of these statements, as well as those previously made, and remains to be certified to the county, and the county clerk is required to file the statement, it is necessary for the secretary of state to keep record of statement certified.)

Section 7. The secretary of state shall immediately record such statement in books provided and kept in his office for that purpose, and shall supply the several county clerks with the necessary forms for making such reports, as provided for in this act.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3089, without change.)

(Apportionment of revenues of state among counties.)

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer, acting jointly, in January of each year, to ascertain by computation, as hereinafter provided, the total amount of revenue necessary for state purposes, and to apportion the aforesaid total revenue among the several counties in the manner hereinafter provided.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3090, as reenacted by Laws of Special Session, 1903, page 6, without change.)

(Method of proceeding in making state apportionment.)

Section 9. The aforesaid state officers shall proceed as follows:

1. Prepare a tabular statement, consisting of all the items of expenses, given separately, to which the state will be subject under existing laws for the fiscal year next after that year for which the last preceding state levy of taxes was computed and declared; also all items of deficiency, including interest on unpaid warrants left over from the previous year, the payment of which has been authorized by law, and also the sum provided by law for the current expenses of the Oregon National Guard, and the sum of \$47,500 for the support of the University of Oregon, and the sum of \$25,000 for the support of the State Agricultural college; and also, when such levy is made on the assessment of an even year, the estimated expense of one biennial session of the legislative assembly; and also, when such levy is made on the assessment of an even year, the estimated total cost, not exceeding \$200,000, of such additional public buildings and improvements of public buildings of the state as the said state officers shall believe it necessary to make during the fiscal year for which such levy of taxes is computed.

2. From the sum total of the aforesaid items shall be deducted any surplus in excess of \$5,000 remaining in the treasury from all funds, however derived, if not applied by law to some special purpose.

3. The remainder so obtained shall be the total amount of revenue to be raised the next ensuing year for state purposes which are not provided for by a special tax duly authorized by law; and said remainder shall be apportioned among the several counties in the manner hereinafter provided, and be levied and collected in each of said counties in the manner other taxes are levied and collected, and be paid over to the state treasurer.

4. In order to ascertain the proportion of such taxes to be paid by the several counties, said state officers shall ascertain from the report of expenditures of the several counties on file in the office of the secretary of state the average amount of expenditure in each county during the period of five years; and each county shall pay such proportion of said state taxes as its average amount of expenditures for said period bears to the total amount of expenditures in all of the counties of the state; provided, that all of the indebtedness and expenses incurred by the county in the acquisition of that portion of what is known as the "Panhandle," by reason of the assumption by Baker county of a portion of the then existing indebtedness of Union county, and the expenses incurred by Baker county in obtaining from Union county the records relating to that part of Union county added to Baker county, known as the "Panhandle," shall not be con-

sidered or considered a part of the expenses of Baker county under this act for any of the years in which said expenditures were made; provided further, that the amount paid by any county in reducing or discharging its indebtedness, or paying interest on its indebtedness, shall not be considered a part of the expenses of a county under this act. Such computation to be made by said state officers in 1910, and in January in each fifth year thereafter. Until the January, 1910, computation of the proportion of the state taxes to be paid by the several counties shall be as set out in the following table, to wit:

Counties.	Per cent.	Counties.	Per cent.
Baker	.0274	Lincoln	.0655
Benton	.0269	Linn	.0624
Clatsop	.0269	Malheur	.0624
Clatsop	.0212	Marion	.0613
Columbia	.0196	Morrow	.0595
Cook	.0222	Multnomah	.1123
Crook	.0130	Polk	.0587
Curry	.0040	Sherman	.0587
DeWitt	.0243	Tillamook	.0627
Gilliam	.0087	Umatilla	.0490
Grant	.0099	Union	.0222
Harney	.0166	Wallowa	.0273
Jackson	.0314	Wasco	.0574
Jefferson	.0100	Washington	.0321
Klamath	.0115	Wheeler	.0507
Lake	.0197	Yamhill	.0621
Lane	.0469		

(No change from section 1, Laws 1903, page 302, except to omit the lines immediately preceding the table, which is based on the assessments of the several counties for the past year, as is literally true, in an act to be now enacted. The original table was found in Laws of 1901, and the table was based on the assessments made during the five years prior to that year.)

(Secretary of state to report to legislature account of collections and apportionments.)

Section 10. The secretary of state shall embody in his printed report to the legislative assembly an accurate transcript or account of the aforesaid annual collections and periodical apportionments occurring between the biennial sessions of the legislature; and he shall also transmit immediately after said apportionment an accurate transcript of it to the county clerks of the several counties, and in no case shall any deduction or abatement be made from the apportionment to the respective counties on account of the delinquent taxpayers.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3092, without change.)

(Numerous statutory provisions for special and general levies of taxes by counties, cities, towns, school districts, road districts, and port of Portland, and for inclusion in the state apportionment of certain sums, may be found. Many of these provisions are to be found in the codes and statutes and city charters; others are intimately connected with chapters directing the distribution of the funds so levied. To attempt to group them in a chapter dealing with the subject of the levy and apportionment of the several counties would be impossible, and misleading if accomplished, and is not attempted.)

(Of the Collection of Taxes and Proceedings in Relation Thereof.)

(Words "tax collector"—Meaning.)

Section 11. The words "tax collector" or wherever used in this act shall be taken to mean the person or officer who by law is charged with the duty of collecting taxes assessed upon real property, and shall be held to include his deputy.

(New.)

(Treasurer is tax collector.)

Section 12. The treasurer of each county shall be the tax collector thereof.

(Substitutes treasurer for sheriff in B. & C. Comp., section 3093. The changes in the succeeding sections necessitated by this change will not be specifically noted.)

(Bond as tax collector—Cumulative to general official bond.)

Section 13. Before entering upon his duty as tax collector the treasurer shall give a bond, signed by some responsible surety company, or some responsible surety or sureties as approved by the county court, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as such tax collector, in such amount as the county court shall direct, and such bond, if signed by a surety company, shall be paid for by the county court.

Such bond shall be additional and cumulative to the general bond given by the treasurer, to which resort may be had in case of failure or default of his duties as tax collector if the bond described in this section be unenforceable or insufficient.

(The last nine lines of section 3094, B. & C. Comp., without change, except change of title of officer.)

(Extension of taxes by county clerk.)

Section 14. The county clerk of each county in the state shall, immediately after receiving from the state board of tax commissioners a copy of the assessments of persons and property within his county, made and certified by said state board of tax commissioners, enter and apportion the same in the assessment roll which has been made by the county assessor, and corrected and equalized by the county board of equalization, and returned to said clerk. Said clerk shall forthwith after receiving all the notices provided for in section 4 of this act, and after the apportionment of taxes, make a certificate of the several amounts apportioned to be paid thereon by the taxable property in his county for state, county, general, and special school and road, military, university, town, city, port, or other purposes for which a tax may have been legally levied, and deliver the said certificate to the tax collector of the county, together with the said assessment roll containing the assessments made by the county assessor as corrected and

(To be continued next week)

(Both Ways.)

Fawell (just before the banquet)—I believe I am to be the third speaker. Noker comes just before me, doesn't he?

Toastmaster—I think so. I heard him say, though, that he was going right after you.

Haw-Haw.

Larry—'Twas th' funnest joke I ever hur-rud in all me born days. Faith, O! laughed all day long.

Denny—Yes did?

Larry—Yis, livery bone in me body fit lolke a funny bone.

Hiding Place.

The great anti-tobacco crusader arose and attacked the baneful cigarette.

"Mark my words," he thundered, "the boy who smokes his first cigarette will always be behind the times."

Far down the aisle a soiled-checked youngster in a green sweater arose and responded:

"You are away off, mister. De kid dat smokes his first cigarette will always be behind de woodshead."

A snowflake sucks up 145 pounds of water during its growth.

FIGHTING DISEASES

Chicago Bending Every Effort to Save Children.

ALL PUBLIC GATHERING STOPPED

Aim is to Keep Scarlet Fever From Aiding Diphtheria—Epidemic Now on Decrease.

Chicago, Jan. 19.—The fight to stay the progress of the scarlet fever and diphtheria epidemic in Chicago and adjoining suburbs was systematized today. Heroic efforts to save children from contagion were put forth by Chicago officials and by the authorities at Evanston, Oak Park and all the other sections affected, as well as by authorities in other suburbs not yet visited by the epidemic, who are anxious to keep it from their midst.

In many sections there was a decided decrease in the number of new cases reported. The chief offices of the health department were urged to keep scarlet fever from spreading in the southern end of the city, where diphtheria heretofore has been most prevalent.

While Commissioner of Health Whalen was appearing before the city council finance committee to ask that he be given money to employ 100 new medical inspectors, one of the most important steps in the crusade was taken yesterday when Dr. Williams R. Parkes advised residents to follow the example of Oak Park and discontinue all public gatherings until the crisis is passed.

Two deaths as a result of the epidemic were reported to the health department yesterday. Sixty-four cases of scarlet fever and 21 of diphtheria were reported to the health department.

Six cases of contagion disease other than scarlet fever and diphtheria were recorded by R. Spalding 106 cases were reported yesterday.

The health department records show there are 15 contagion disease cases in Irving Park and four cases of the disease in West Pullman. Five new cases of scarlet fever developed in Oak Park in the morning and we reported to the health department.

(School, town, city, port, or other taxing agency levy—On what valuation.)

Section 15. All the taxes hereinafter levied by any incorporated city or town, school district, road district, port, or other municipal taxing agency or district, shall be levied on the property therein respectively assessable upon the valuation of such property as shown by the assessment roll last compiled by the assessor, corrected and equalized by the county board of equalization, and including entries therein of assessments as certified by the state board of tax commissioners and apportioned to such municipalities by the county clerk. And it shall be the duty of the county clerk in each of the several counties, upon the application of the clerk or board of school directors of any school district, and of any road supervisor, or of any three resident freeholders of any road district, or of the recorder, auditor, or clerk or common council, board of directors, or trustees or other governing body of any incorporated city or town, port, or other municipal taxing district, to furnish a certificate, under the seal of the county court, showing the aggregate valuation of the assessable property in the school district, road district, incorporated city or town, port or other taxing district or agency, from which such application shall have been made.

(Add provisions as to port or other municipal taxing agency or district; modifies provision as to valuation of property; in case of assessment roll last compiled, this adds, as corrected and equalized, the assessments made by the state board of tax commissioners. A consolidated part of Laws of 1903, page 282, and of Laws of 1904, page 282.)

(All taxes levied to be collected by same officer and in same manner as county taxes.)

Section 16. All taxes levied by any school district, road district, incorporated city or town, port or other municipal corporation or taxing agency or district, not levied or hereafter authorized by law, or levied or hereafter authorized by law, shall be collected by the same officer and in the same manner and at the same time as taxes for county purposes are collected.

(See first two lines of B. & C. Comp., section 3109; Laws of 1903, page 284, section 74; B. & C. Comp., section 4651, to the same effect.)

(Taxes to be paid in gold and silver coin.)

Section 17. All taxes levied in this state by the authority of the state or any person or property in this state shall be collected and paid in gold and silver coin of the United States, and not otherwise.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3157.)

(Grantor or grantee—Which to pay tax.)

Section 18.—As between the grantor and grantee of any land, when there is no express agreement as to which shall pay the taxes that may be assessed thereon before the conveyance, if such land is conveyed at the time or prior to the date of the warrant authorizing the collection of such taxes then the grantee shall pay the same, but if conveyed after the date the grantor shall pay them.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3155, no change.)

(To be continued next week)

Of Course She Would.

"And then, mind you," he exclaimed, "Miss Passy, 'the asked me if I wouldn't marry the first man that came along.'"

"The idea!" remarked Miss Know.

"Don't these obviously unnecessary questions make you sick?" Philadelphia Press.

Society Favorite.

Edyth—"They say that Percy Featherly is losing his mind."

Mayme—"Poor fellow! He'll be lucky if he doesn't lose any more than that."

His Friend.

Nell—"Isn't your new gown finished yet?"

Belle—"Gracious! The dressmaker's work on it was only completed last Saturday."

Nell—"But if the dressmaker's through, what else?"

Belle—"Oh, all my friends have to criticize it yet—Philadelphia Ledger."

Self-Evident.

Tommy—"Paw, what is a man of destiny?"

Mr. Tucker—"Any man that lives in Kansas."

EPIDEMIC IN CHICAGO.

Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria Rampant Among Children.

Chicago, Jan. 18.—With 6,000 school children in Chicago and suburbs prostrate with scarlet fever and diphtheria and the announcement from the state capital last night that smallpox and scarlet fever are practically epidemic throughout Illinois, the health authorities have awakened to the most serious condition they have experienced for years. Radical steps were taken at once in closing many schools, and, if the disease continues to spread, it may result in the closing of all places of entertainment and resorts where people congregate in large numbers.

Reports of new cases flooded into the health office with increasing rapidity. Seventy-six new cases of scarlet fever and 30 cases of diphtheria were reported within the city limits in three hours.

In all 118 cases of contagious diseases were reported to the Chicago health department yesterday, including cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria, against 107 reported the previous day.

Dr. Herman Spalding, the city's contagious disease expert, declared there were about 3,000 cases of scarlet fever in the city at present and 2,000 cases of diphtheria. In Evanston and Oak Park there were probably 1,000 additional cases.

In Evanston 4,500 pupils were barred from school by order of Dr. William R. Parkes, of the Evanston board of health. In Oak Park 3,500 more children were barred. It is estimated that more than 25,000 pupils were kept home from schools in Chicago yesterday by the parents.

When the first great shock came Monday afternoon many buildings all over the town collapsed, burying hundreds of persons in the debris. Of these many were injured and most of them were rescued. The shock was followed by lighter tremors, and then fire started in the ruins along the waterfront.

The fire raged until an early hour Tuesday morning, when, luckily, the wind changed and the fire, having nothing further to feed on, burned itself out.

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THOUSANDS INJURED

Estimates of Killed at Kingston Range From 100 to 1,000.

STATEMENTS ARE CONFLICTING

Entire City Appears to Have Been Damaged by Quake—Fire Has Burned Itself Out.

New York, Jan. 17.—Reports of the damage done in Kingston, Jamaica, by earthquake and fire and as to the loss of life and the number of injured were still conflicting today. This is probably due to the confusion in the stricken city, such as always ensues after a great disaster. Newspaper men and others who have arrived at the telegraph station connecting with Holland bay all have different versions of the catastrophe and the loss of life. The statement as to the latter must of necessity be largely conjectural until a search of the ruins has been made, and this must take some days.

Estimates of the number of dead vary from 100 to 1,000, while the number of injured may run into several thousands. The report from St. Thomas that 900,000 people were injured is on its face an exaggeration, as the population of Kingston did not greatly exceed 60,000.

According to the latest advices, the city was not destroyed, but nearly every building in the place sustained some damage. Practically the entire business section, however, was ruined by the quakes or by fire.

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Made Happy for Life.

Great happiness came into the home of S. C. Blair, school superintendent, of St. Albans, Vt., when his little daughter was restored from the dreadful complaint he names. He says: "My little daughter had St. Vitus' Dance, which yielded to no treatment but grew steadily worse until as a last resort we tried Electric Bitters; and I rejoice to say, three bottles effected a complete cure." Quick, sure cure for nervous complaints, general debility, female weakness, impoverished blood and malaria. Guaranteed by all drug stores. Price 50c.

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