

State Capitol News Letter

If tax returns can be accepted as a fair criterion, prosperity must have peeped around the corner at least in Oregon last year. A report by the income tax commission shows that a total of 94,644 tax returns were filed this year as compared to 75,339 last year. Income taxes paid up to April 1, deadline for the first installment, totalled \$3,467,460 compared to \$2,280,170 a year ago.

While the number of taxable returns filed increased only 23.6 per cent over those of a year ago, taxes paid and reported show an increase of 29.5 per cent, indicating not only a greater number of persons in the taxable brackets but an increase in individual incomes as well.

Continuation of the services of Captain Leo Levany, of Roseburg, as

state aeronautics director, still upon a temporary basis, was announced by the board of aeronautics at a meeting at Salem this week. Members of the board told Governor Sprague that there was considerable work of a promotional nature still requiring the attention of the board and for which the services of the director were necessary.

Announcement that Lyle D. Thomas, of Polk county, will be a candidate for the house speakership if he is returned to that body next fall brings the number of aspirants to this honor to three. Others who have their eyes on the speakership include Wm. McAllister of Medford and Robert Farrell, of Portland. Thomas is a veteran of three regular and one special sessions of the state legislature.

The new salary standardization program evolved by Judge Director Eccles has now been made effective in 47 state departments and institutions with a total employed personnel of 2465. The program does not apply to the state department, the treasury department nor the attorney general's office, none of which are under

the jurisdiction of the budget director, nor to the highway department, the unemployment compensation commission or the state public welfare commission which are already operating under merit rating systems, either of their own making or imposed by the federal government.

The state Board of Forestry is scheduled to meet here Friday at the call of Governor Sprague. It is understood one of the principal items of business to come before the board will be that of the selection of a permanent state forester to relieve Carl Davis, of Marshfield, who accepted the post under a temporary appointment on January 1 and who is said to be anxious to devote his entire time to his extensive logging and lumbering interests in Coos and Linn counties.

Any attempt on the part of the federal government to obtain possession of Oregon Sands, a small island in the mouth of the Columbia river, will be vigorously opposed by the State Land Board. The board has been advised that the federal authorities regard Oregon Sands as a part of Sand Island which the state ceded to Uncle Sam many years ago as a military base. It is expected the controversy will soon be taken into the courts.

The State Emergency Board turned thumbs down on Oregon's participation in the 1940 World's Fair on Treasure Island this week when it refused to approve an appropriation of \$16,500 to finance a state exhibit. David Eccles, budget director, who previously had pared the tentative budget for the state exhibit down to \$25,000 presented the board with a revised budget calling for a total expenditure of \$40,000 with an unexpended balance in the 1939 appropriation. Governor Sprague appeared before the board to recommend an appropriation of \$16,500 from the emergency fund to be matched by an equal amount from the tourist travel promotion fund of the highway department.

Four members of the Emergency Board voted for the appropriation, one short of the required number for passage, with the remaining two members voting "no." Those voting for the appropriation were Senators Dean Walker and Ronald Jones, Representatives C. C. Chapman and A. Renne. Those opposed were Representatives Ernest Fatland and Henry

Simon. All members of the board expressed dissatisfaction over Oregon's showing at the 1939 Fair and at least two of the four members voting for the appropriation declared that they did so only because T. H. Banfield, prominent Portland industrial leader, had agreed to head up the new World's Fair commission which the governor planned to appoint if the budget for the exhibit was approved.

No, the gilded pioneer atop Oregon's new capitol is not sprouting whiskers. A published report picturing the pioneer statue as a member of Salem's newly organized "whiskerino" club brought a number of indignant protests to Secretary of State Snell as custodian of the capitol building. Snell lost no time in branding the story as false and in explaining that so far as he is concerned permission will not be given the centennial boosters to desecrate the pioneer with any hirsute adornment.

State department and institution heads are attending school in Salem today (Thursday). David Eccles, budget director, is conducting a conference on budget, purchasing and auditing problems. A similar conference will be held in Portland later for heads of departments maintaining headquarters in that city. If the experiment proves successful other conferences will be held from time to time, Eccles said.

When a man bites a dog, that's news. Likewise when a taxpayer voluntarily contributes more than the law requires and insists that he is glad to do it. The income tax commission has uncovered at least two of these unusual individuals. One filed a return showing he did not owe any tax but enclosed a check for \$12 just because he thought it was worth at least that much to be allowed to live in Oregon. Another return showed a tax of \$9.00 due but the taxpayer insisted on contributing \$15 and insisted that he wished he could afford to make it still more.

Filing fees paid by the 417 candidates whose names will appear on the state primary ballot totalled \$7,125, it was reported by Secretary of State Snell. Another \$5,425 was paid in for space in the official voters' pamphlet which went to press this week and will begin going into the mail late this month.

NOTICE OF MEETING
Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the owners of land in the Fat Elk Drainage District held at the City Hall in Coquille, Coos County, Oregon, at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon of Saturday, the 27th day of April, 1940, for the purpose of electing one Supervisor for said Drainage District who shall hold his office for a period of three years and until his successor is elected and qualified; and for the transaction of such other business as may lawfully come before the meeting. Dated this 11th day of April, 1940.

W. E. Cross
E. L. Dettleson
Leland Peterson
Supervisors
Edna A. Robison, Secretary

"Unreality" Subject At Christian Science Church

"Unreality" was the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, April 7. The Golden Text was, "Truly in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, and from the multitude of mountains: truly in the Lord our God is the salvation of Israel!" (Jer. 2:23).

Among the citations which comprised the Lesson-Sermon was the following from the Bible: "I the Preacher was king over Israel in Jerusalem. And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven. . . . I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit" (Ecc. 1:12, 13, 14).

The Lesson-Sermon also included the following correlative passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy: "It is the tangled barbarisms of learning which we deplore,—the mere dogma, the speculative theory, the nauseous fiction. . . . Incorrect views lower the standard of truth. If materialistic knowledge is power, it is not wisdom. It is but a blind force Man has 'sought out many invention,' but he has not yet found it true that knowledge can save him from the dire effects of knowledge" (pp. 195-196).

New shipment of attractive Needlepoint just received. Ladies are invited to come in and see it whether they wish to purchase or not. Bonnie Walker, 491 South Coulter, Phone 14M.

Haga To Open Grocery Here

(From the Western World)
The Haga Grocery is closing out its stock of merchandise in view of moving to Coquille, where Mr. Haga has leased the front part of the building now occupied by a locker box cold storage plant. He states that a special closing out sale will be continued until Saturday, April 13, in view of selling all the stock. The fixtures are to be moved to Coquille. Mr. Haga is also offering his interest in the building which the store is occupying and plans to sell his home on Ocean Drive.

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DEPT: Roxy Bldg.
PHONE: 245



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