

TAX CUT DEPENDS ON APPROPRIATIONS

Reduction of \$225,000,000 Unlikely if Balanced Budget is Maintained.

Washington, D. C.—A \$225,000,000 tax reduction cannot be had at this session of congress if a balanced budget is to be maintained, in the opinion of administration tax experts who have studied the March 15 tax receipts.

Appropriations already made by congress, they contend, would make such a reduction unsafe, and appropriations for flood relief, estimated at \$40,000,000, will force a substantial shaving down of the original figure recommended by the treasury.

In view of these disclosures, treasury officials plan to go back before congress with revised figures that probably will call for a reduction of between \$180,000,000 and \$200,000,000. Receipts have come in virtually as estimated by the treasury, these experts say, but the congressional appropriations have exceeded the estimates.

"But there will be tax reduction at this session," a spokesman said, "just what it will depend on what congress does." These opinions were expressed despite the belief of President Coolidge and members of congress that a \$225,000,000 reduction still is possible if congress cuts down on future appropriations.

The present 3 per cent tax on automobiles yields the treasury about \$68,000,000. The house, against the wishes of Secretary Mellon and the president, voted to repeal this. A move is on foot to restore half of the present tax—6, a rate of 1 1/2 per cent—to the bill as one means of meeting the White House demand.

Another suggestion receiving favorable attention in preliminary considerations of the bill in the majority ranks is one to abolish the house provision for a graduated tax on smaller incomes of corporations and to increase, perhaps, the corporation level of 11 1/2 per cent proposed by the house to 12 per cent. The present corporation tax is 13 1/2 per cent.

BRITISH SHIP PLAN RECEIVED GOLDLY

Washington, D. C.—Unless Great Britain is prepared to sign an agreement limiting cruiser tonnage on a basis acceptable to the American government there is virtually no chance that Washington officials will agree to discuss reductions in battleship tonnage and armament prior to the scheduled 1931 conference of the Washington treaty powers.

The British suggestion made Saturday at Geneva that the Washington treaty powers reach an agreement to reduce the tonnages of all battleships built in the future to something under 30,000 tons, to extend the life of existing battleships from 20 to 26 years and to reduce the size of guns on capital ships from the present limit of 16 inches to 13 1/2 inches arouses no enthusiasm in state department or naval circles.

Naval officials view the English proposals as an attempt to insure continuance of British superiority in capital ships. British battleships were superior to American capital ships at the time the Washington agreement was signed. The completion of the Rodney and Nelson, the latest British capital ships, last year thrust the British fleet far ahead of the United States fleet in actual effectiveness.

WILL DISTRIBUTE SHEEP

Western Washington Conference Reports More Purchases.

Olympia, Wash.—The western Washington sheep conference here certified orders for 1750 sheep to be distributed as foundation flocks on farms in Lewis, King and Pierce counties. The conference reported the purchase of 600 sheep on previous orders from Grays Harbor and Lewis counties, making a total of 2350 sheep ordered since the start of the movement to establish the sheep industry in western Washington.

The conference decided to ask all assessors to enforce the dog tax, which is generally ignored. It was emphasized that many dogs would either have to be killed or controlled.

Lindy Receives Congressional Medal. Washington, D. C.—Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh has received from the hands of President Coolidge the highest recognition of personal achievement that the nation can bestow—the congressional medal of honor.

Canada Divorces Showing Increase. Ottawa, Ont.—Divorces granted in Canada in 1927 showed an increase of 23 per cent over 1926, statistics compiled by the dominion bureau of statistics reveal.

SERG. DONALDSON



If bills before congress are passed Sergeant Michael Donaldson, an outstanding hero of the World war, will receive \$10,000 bonus and a life income of \$200 a month in recognition of his services.

FLOOD AREA TO BE REHABILITATED

Los Angeles, Cal.—Final preparations to move a well-equipped, organized and financed army of workmen from four strategic points on a 10-mile front down into the flood-devastated area of the Santa Clara river valley was made Monday.

Financed by a \$1,000,000 fund appropriated by the Los Angeles city council, more than 1000 workers, under the leadership of C. E. Bessler, will man and operate approximately a million and a half dollars' worth of tractors, steam shovels, scrapers and other equipment in the move to wipe out all vestige of the disaster that took a toll of more than 450 persons lost and caused losses variously estimated in the several millions of dollars on March 13.

The first sector was marked off by four of the hardest hit citrus growing communities, Santa Paula, Piru, Bardsdals and Fillmore. After this section is cleared up the "army" will move on until every acre touched by the scouring water from the broken St. Francis dam has been gone over.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

Official return of Spain to the league of nations has been announced.

William C. Sprull, former governor of Pennsylvania died at this home near Chester, Pa.

Frank Clark of Florida was nominated a member of the United States tariff commission to succeed Edward P. Costigan of Colorado, who resigned recently.

Reports on employment from all parts of the country indicate a general improvement in the present situation may be expected soon, according to the regular monthly employment bulletin of the United States employment service.

President Coolidge in a special message to congress proposed that the United States temporarily set aside its monetary claims against Austria in order to enable that country to borrow additional capital for economic reconstruction.

Sacramento Valley is Flooded. Sacramento, Cal.—A woman and a baby were reported drowned, 400 refugees were homeless and North Sacramento and surrounding territory were under water as rain-swollen floods swept down from the hills. Frantic calls for motor boats have been sent up and down the river as more than 600 persons are reported isolated in homes buried to the eaves in water.

Senator Ferris of Michigan Dies. Washington, D. C.—Senator Woodbridge N. Ferris, democrat of Michigan, died of bronchial pneumonia. It is expected that the death of Mr. Ferris will decrease the democratic strength in the senate by one vote.

Governor Green of Michigan, who has the power of appointing his successor, is a republican and is expected to appoint someone from his own party.

Hickman Gets Stay of Life. San Quentin, Cal.—William Edward Hickman, sentenced to death for the kidnaping and slaying of 12-year-old Marian Parker in Los Angeles, will not hang on April 27, the date set for his execution. San Quentin prison authorities were informed by the supreme court that hearing on his appeal could not be reached by that time.

Lowden and Smith Win North Dakota. Fargo, N. D.—Thirteen votes for Frank O. Lowden in the republican national convention and 10 for Governor Al Smith in the democratic were pledged by the North Dakota electorate in state-wide presidential preferential primary.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

W. J. Gooding, representing Elmann Bros. of Boston, last Monday bought four Malheur county wool clips for 35 cents a pound.

The Shevlin-Hixon company at Bend has recently put on a night shift with four band saws and the mill is now running at near capacity.

Donald Newton, 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Newton of Haines, was drowned in a septic tank on the Tom Smith property at Haines.

A special train arrived at Crane Monday night carrying a consignment of 1200 Idaho cattle for the feeding and grazing lands of Harney county.

The contract for erecting the Lapine school building has been let to John J. Cunningham of Bend. It will replace the one destroyed by fire January 6.

A half million honey bees ordered recently by Mead Honey company of Salem are en route from California, according to a telegram received last week.

Governor Patterson, in a proclamation issued at Salem last Thursday, urged the people to join in the observance of American Forest week, April 22 to 28.

Operations at the Flagstaff mine, near Baker, closed a number of years, will be resumed within a few days on a large scale, it was announced recently.

The new high school building at Reedsport was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies Sunday night. The building replaces the one destroyed by fire a year ago.

Roads between LaPine and Silver Lake are impassable and there is no change of getting through the marsh, according to word received at Klamath Falls from Paisley.

At a recent survey taken in Bend, that city is shown to have at least 70 more families than were there at the end of last summer, and 30 of these came since January 1.

To speed up the repair work on the Old Oregon Trail highway between La Grande and Pendleton a double shift was started last week at the rock quarry at Meacham.

J. C. Leith announces that he will construct a new water system and power plant for his electric light system at Gold Beach. He will spend \$60,000 on the improvement.

Salem's high school will graduate 259 seniors next June, according to J. C. Nelson, principal, a gain of eight over the class of 1927. The class includes 103 boys and 156 girls.

Eugene held its annual spring style show last week. Several blocks of the main business streets were roped off and traffic suspended while thousands of people thronged the streets.

George M. Rasque, a Spokane architect, has been selected by the school board at Burns to draw plans for the new \$75,000 high school building to be erected in that city this year.

The good weather of last Sunday brought out the first golf players on the new Mill City course. A large gang of men also turned out and work has been started on the fourth green.

More than 200 Rotarians and their wives were in Albany last week to witness the chartering of a new club in Albany. Hank Manny of Seattle, district governor, presented the charter.

Searchers found the lifeless body of George W. Barker, Butte Falls banker and capitalist, who disappeared last Monday. He had shot himself with a gun taken from the bank at the time he disappeared.

The first case of infantile paralysis in Jackson county for months resulted in the death of James W. Johnson, 25, Sams Valley. The Sams Valley school has been closed as a precautionary measure.

Caught by a cave-in in the mine in which he believed he had finally struck his fortune, Marvin J. Vincent, 51, was killed more than a week ago in the Jump-Off Joe section of Josephine county. The body was found about 15 feet under the surface of the ground in a position which indicated that the miner had been caught while on his knees working.

Mrs. Henry L. Benson, widow of Justice Benson of the state supreme court, is to construct a modern two-story concrete hotel building in Salem at a cost of \$25,000. Work on the structure will get under way soon.

Announcement was made last week by Roseburg fire insurance agents of a meeting called for April 9 and 10 in Roseburg to perfect the organization of a state association of recognized fire underwriters, similar to associations in Washington and California.

Idle since December 15, the Pelican Bay lumber mill, the largest pine-cutting plant in Klamath, resumed operation last week with two shifts. Approximately 150 men went on the lumber company's payroll.

The proposed national park of Silver Creek Falls in Marion county is disapproved by the department of the interior because the area is too small and too involved in private holdings, says a report from Acting Secretary E. C. Finney to Senator McNary.

Five thousand dollars will be spent in road construction work in the Fort Rock district of the Deschutes national forest this summer, according to information from R. L. Fromme, forest supervisor. Roads to be constructed will be primarily for fire protection purposes.

Four persons were killed and 335 others injured in 1926 traffic accidents in Oregon during February, according to the monthly report of T. A. Rafferty, chief of the state traffic squad. Two killed were pedestrians, the other two were occupants of automobiles involved in collisions.

F. A. Banks, chief engineer on the Owyhee project, has announced that bids for construction of the Owyhee dam near Nyssa will be opened June 1. This dam will be 360 feet in height, the highest irrigation dam in the United States, and will impound 600,000 acre-feet of water.

At a special school election at Firwood last week it was voted to suspend school for one year and transport the children of the district to Sandy grammar school, the board of the latter school agreeing to hire a fourth teacher. The vote was small, being only 12 in favor and 5 against.

Seventy thousand dollars will be expended soon by the Southern Pacific company in the passenger station yards at Eugene in the extension of passing tracks, E. L. King, superintendent of the division, has announced. Two additional tracks will be installed and the old ones rearranged.

Last week a rock was unearthed near Sweet Home, where highway blasting is going on, which caused curiosity among the valley residents. The rock is of a dark blue substance and when a match is touched to it the substance burns. Some of the rock has been sent away for analysis.

Official figures covering tax payments from January 1 to March 20, were released by Clyde G. Huntley, collector of internal revenue for Oregon recently. The total for this year was \$1,310,820.26 as compared with \$1,352,521.65 for the same period of 1927, or a decrease of \$41,701.39.

The Eastern Oregon Principals' and Superintendents' association will hold its annual meeting in La Grande Saturday, March 31. Among other items of business will be the awarding of the eastern Oregon interscholastic track and field meet. Union is expected to receive the meet, as it is her "turn."

One man was drowned and another is in a hospital suffering from severe gashes on his head as the result of an accident near Astoria when the automobile in which they were riding crashed through the guard bars, mounted the tilted span of an opening draw bridge and toppled into Young's river.

The Big Creek & Telocaset Railroad company has filed application with the interstate commerce commission for permission to extend its line from Telocaset, Union county, for 11 miles in a southeasterly direction to Beagle Creek Junction, according to information received by the public service commission.

The annual run of suckers is under way, and joy reigns in the ranks of Klamath Indians. Up Williamson and Sprague rivers tens of thousands of these sluggish fish are moving, while redskins with spears, hooks and other apparatus are hauling them out by hundreds. The sucker is used as food by the Klamath tribe.

Four of Salem's pioneer families are to be honored in the renaming of city streets under an ordinance introduced before the city council last week. They are Baker, Simpson, Breyman and Ford. The proposed change in the street names is in line with the renumbering of houses throughout the city, now in progress.

After repeated warning to boys and girls on roller skates to keep out of the business district, Chief of Police McCredie of Medford, clamped on the lid tight, barring all roller skaters from business streets under penalty of arrest and having their skates confiscated and kept in storage in the police station until called for by parents.

Eugene is to have a rodeo July 24, the first there in 10 years. Much equipment and stock used in the Pendleton Round-Up is to be used and riders who have gained fame in the eastern Oregon event will take part.

An initiative petition filed in the state department last week would make it unlawful to fish for salmon with seine or traps in any waters of Oregon, or in any waters over which the state has control. The proposed law would become effective January 1, 1929.

MAJ. R. Y. STUART



Maj. R. Y. Stuart, formerly head of the information service of the forestry service of the Department of Agriculture, who has been appointed chief forester.

SINCLAIR REFUSES TO PRODUCE RECORDS

Washington, D. C.—Harry F. Sinclair has given orders that the records of his private security holdings are not to be revealed to the senate Teapot Dome committee.

The committee was so informed by Harold Kenwell, cashier of the Sinclair Consolidated Oil company, who explained that was why he had not brought the record with him in response to a subpoena.

"I asked Mr. Sinclair for that permission and it was refused," Kenwell said. "You know the record is Sinclair's personal property, and I cannot remove it without his consent."

The committee wanted to examine the records to see if he now held any Continental Trading company Liberty bonds.

Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the interior, will tell his story of the Teapot Dome lease at his home in El Paso, Tex.

Justice Jennings Bailey of the District supreme court granted a motion of Harry F. Sinclair for the taking of a deposition from Fall, who is too ill to attend the trial here of Sinclair on April 4.

HARDING INQUIRY ENDED

Records Show No Sinclair Bonds Held by Late President.

Marion, Ohio—Charles D. Schaffner, executor of the estate of the late President Warren G. Harding, has announced that an examination of his records by a special investigator of the senate public lands committee has definitely established that the late president possessed none of the \$3,050,000 worth of Continental Trading company bonds involved in the Teapot Dome oil scandal.

Mr. Schaffner said that William F. Allen, acting special investigator for the senate committee, investigated the late president's records.

U. S. Judge Ousts Striking Miners.

Columbus, O.—Striking union miners occupying company-owned houses at mines in the eastern Ohio district, which the operators wish to operate on a non-union basis, must move to make room for the non-union men, Federal Judge Benson W. Hough ruled recently.

Coolidge Says Again He Won't Run.

Washington, D. C.—President Coolidge, in reply to a resolution passed by the republican state central committee of Wyoming, declined to accede to the committee's wish that he be a candidate in the 1928 presidential race.

THE MARKETS

Portland
Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, \$1.47, hard white, federation, soft white and western white, \$1.38 1/2; hard winter, northern spring and western red, \$1.32.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$18@18.50; valley timothy, \$18@18.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$20.50@21.
Butterfat—50c.
Eggs—Ranch, 19@24c.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11@12.
Hogs—Medium to choice, \$7.90@9.00.
Lamb—Medium to choice, \$12@14.00.
Seattle.
Wheat—Soft white, western white, \$1.44; hard winter, \$1.35; western red, \$1.36; northern spring, \$1.38; bluestem, \$1.53; dark northern spring, \$1.54; dark hard winter, \$1.51.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$24; timothy, \$28; P. S., \$24.
Butterfat—52c.
Eggs—Ranch, 22@25c.
Cattle—Steers, choice, \$11@12.
Hogs—Prime, \$9.25@9.35.
Spokane.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11.25@12.00.
Hogs—Good, \$9.10@9.15.

GRAIN RATE QUERY IN CHICAGO ENDS

Witnesses Agree Farmers' Market Best When Buyers Are Plentiful.

Chicago.—The middle west's opinion of freight rates on grain and its products has been expressed to the interstate commerce commission, empowered with special congressional authority to re-make them in the interest of the grain growers.

The rate investigation, authorized by the Hoch-Smith resolution three years ago, was completed in Chicago Saturday. On May 22 the investigation will be resumed at Seattle. Later sessions will be held at Portland and Los Angeles.

Everything is wrong with the grain rates, a symposium of testimony taken here shows. They are too high, the Chicago, Buffalo, Philadelphia and Boston grain bureaus, and spokesmen for the farmers of Kansas, Oklahoma and North Dakota, claimed.

Mal-adjustment in the freight rate, asserted Kansas City, Duluth, New Orleans and St. Louis representatives. The representative from Minneapolis thought rail competition with Great Lakes steamer carriers would benefit the northwestern wheat growers.

All witnesses, whether they spoke for "pit" traders, elevator operators, railroads, farmers, exporters or millers, agreed the more individuals or concerns there are bidding for the grain where it is grown and sold, the more money there will be in the farmer's pockets.

Several witnesses argued that the price of the export wheat—the surplus crop—fixed the price on all the wheat grown in the United States. Others contended that the European price is predicated on the futures quotations in the country. Some thought the farmer was directly benefited by rate reductions; others, among them the railroad spokesmen, asserted rates played a part in the growers' prosperity only in relationship with other merchandising factors.

MIAMI POLICEMEN HELD FOR MURDER

Miami, Fla.—Five policemen, including Chief of Police Leslie Quigg, were held in the county jail without bail following sensational developments in a grand jury investigation of two mysterious murders, one of which occurred two and a half years ago.

Chief Quigg, Lieutenant M. A. Tibbets and Detectives John Caudell and Tom Nazworth are held on first degree murder charges in connection with the death of H. Kier, a negro bellboy, allegedly a victim of third degree methods. The indictment alleged Chief Quigg conspired with the other officers to keep the negro's death secret.

The fifth policeman, R. L. Wood, a detective, was held in jail charged with killing Victory W. Parnell, a carpenter, in November, 1926, without provocation, according to the indictment.

In returning the indictments, the grand jury declared it had discovered "an alliance between police and members of the underworld."

LONGVIEW BRIDGE LEGAL

John W. Davis, Nationally Known Lawyer, Holds Case Closed.

Portland, Or.—Any effort to prevent by judicial process the construction of the Longview-Rainier bridge would inevitably fail, according to John W. Davis of New York, ex-solicitor-general of the United States and nationally known attorney, in an opinion received here as a result of his review of all issues in the bridge matter.

The opinion is declared to substantiate those submitted by local attorneys before Mr. Davis was retained. The ex-solicitor-general was selected by a committee composed of Frank M. Warren, president of the Port of Portland commission; John H. Burgard, chairman of the commission of public docks, and E. B. MacNaughton, chairman of the port development committee of the chamber of commerce.

Portland Wholesale Grocers' Merge.

Portland, Or.—Three big firms of this city are in process of consolidation into one of the largest wholesale grocery establishments of the Pacific coast, with a capital of \$3,000,000. The companies going into the merger are Allen & Lewis, Mason Ehrman & Co. and Lang & Co. Combined annual sales of these firms are between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000.

Churches Pray for Good Government.

Chicago.—State prayer day for good government and religious guidance at the April primary was observed in 250 Methodist churches throughout Illinois Sunday.