

The Athena Press

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VOLUME 48.

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 8, 1927

NUMBER 14

Small Number Pay Most of Income Tax

Tax Returns Indicate an Increase in the Number of Millionaires.

Washington, D. C.—More than 95 per cent of the individual income tax collections are paid by 29 of 1 per cent of the country's population, while 82 per cent of the people pay no income tax.

This is disclosed in an analysis of the effect of the 1926 revenue act, based on the returns for the calendar year 1925.

One of the significant features of the analysis is the singular increase in the number of persons paying taxes on incomes of more than \$1,000,000. This number jumped to 207 in 1925, comparing with 75 in the preceding year and 74 in 1923. Seven persons paid taxes on incomes of more than \$5,000,000, reaching an aggregate tax of \$61,382,863.

The number of individual returns, under the new law, dropped to 3,954,000, a falling off of 3,250,000. Of those making returns, however, a large number had no taxable income.

The total tax collection was 6 per cent greater under the 1926 law, in the face of a total net income \$4,500,000,000 less than that of the preceding year, and of lower tax rates.

Fifty per cent of the corporations in Oregon last year paid taxes totaling \$3,058,750 on an aggregate net income of \$27,312,251, according to statistics of income for 1925. Of the 5727 corporations in Oregon which have taxable status, 2868 reported last year that they had received net income during 1925, while 2859 others reported no net income and a combined deficit of \$16,348,051 instead.

The statistics for corporations in the state of Washington showed that 5158 corporations paid \$6,790,360 in taxes on net income for 1925 of \$61,324,522, while 4814 corporations reported a total deficit in 1925 of \$28,512,015.

MEXICAN BANDITS KILL MINE ENGINEER

Washington, D. C.—Murder of Edgar M. Wilkins, American mining engineer, by Mexican bandits, at a time when the killing last September of another American, Jacob Rosenthal, still is an unsettled diplomatic case, has given a new twist to the already disturbed relations between the United States and Mexico.

Official report to the state department from Consul Dwyre at Guadalajara that Wilkins' body had been found was followed immediately by instructions to Ambassador Sheffield at Mexico City to make urgent representations concerning the murder to the foreign office.

Dwyre reported that Wilkins had been dead four days, having apparently been slain when the bandits, hard pressed by federal troops, became convinced they would not collect the 20,000 pesos ransom they demanded.

NEW RULE FOR MEDICS

Washington Law Requires "All to Undergo Examination

Olympia, Wash.—Leaflets containing a digest of the "basic science" law were sent out to all practitioners of the "art of healing" in the state by Charles R. Maybury, director of licenses.

The law, which becomes effective June 9, is intended to raise the standard of medical practice in Washington. It provides that all persons applying for licenses to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathy, osteopathy and surgery, chiropractic or drugless therapeutics in this state shall be examined on dates fixed by the director of licenses by a committee of five, to be appointed by the governor from the faculties of the University of Washington and Washington state college.

Coolidge Revokes Oil Transfer Order

Washington, D. C.—The contested order of President Harding, transferring naval oil reserves to the interior department, under which Secretary Fall made the Doheny leases, has been revoked by President Coolidge. The legality of the Harding order has been attacked in the government suits to regain from E. L. Doheny the Elk Hills reserve and in the Sinclair oil suits.

Hiram S. Knight Dies Tuesday Morning as the Result of Heart Failure

A third pioneer citizen of Athena, to die as the result of heart failure in the last two weeks, passed on Tuesday morning, when Hiram S. Knight expired at his home on lower Adams street, at the age of 76 years, six months and 10 days.

Mr. Knight had been in failing health for two years, but until lately had been able most of the time to attend to his work about home, although for several months he had not given attention to his concrete work.

Tuesday morning he was up as usual. He was stricken while seated in a chair. Assisted to his bed he gave a few gasps and was gone. Funeral services were held at the Baptist church yesterday afternoon at two o'clock.

Mr. Knight was born in Missouri. He came to Athena in 1889, bringing his family from Missouri in a covered wagon, drawn by the largest span of mules ever seen here. With the exception of several months spent in the state of Washington, Mr. Knight had been a resident of this city continuously.

He is survived by his widow, four sons and two daughters, as follows: Edgar Knight, of Baker; Everett and Henry Knight, of Athena; Frank Knight, of Colorado; Mrs. Alpha Peters, of Pendleton, and Mrs. Borstal, of Hermiston.

Charge is Made That Banker's Life Officials Diverted Reserve Fund

The following dispatch from Des Moines, Iowa, appearing in a recent issue of the Kansas City Star, will be of interest to policy holders in the Banker's Life Insurance Company:

"Des Moines—Charges that officials of the Banker's Life Insurance Company here 'wrongfully diverted' to other sources 8 million dollars belonging to a reserve fund set aside for the benefit of policy holders under the old mutual insurance plan under which the company operated prior to 1911, were in a suit filed against the company last week by twelve policy holders.

"Prior to 1911 the company operated on the assessment plan. Now a proposed rate increase, it is alleged, would change the old rate of about \$14.10 for every \$2,000 policy under the assessment plan to \$35.10 yearly under the new premium plan.

"Officials of the company said no reserve funds had been diverted, but the reserve under the old form of policy merely was exhausted."

Elevator Addition is Progressing Rapidly

Work on the new addition to the Farmer's Grain Elevator in Athena is progressing. Workmen are engaged in assembling the cribbing on the concrete foundation, which will be approximately 75 feet high when completed, and will have capacity for holding a large tonnage of bulk grain.

The new addition will be completed in time to accommodate storage of grain to be threshed during the coming harvest. It will serve to greatly facilitate storage room for bulk grain at the peak of the delivery period, without having to rush out shipments of grain, as was the case for two years past.

The capacity of the plant will now be able to handle bulk grain from the harvesters as it is delivered from the fields under conditions that will be prompt and normal.

Weston Couple Wed

William E. Van Winkle and Miss Minnie Johnson, both of Weston, were united in marriage at Pendleton, Friday of last week. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Johnson. Both bride and groom are well known in Athena.

New Books at County Library

The following new books have been received at the county library: "Fathers of the Revolution," Guadalupe; "Jefferson and Hamilton, the Struggle for Democracy in America," Bowers; "Jefferson," Nock; "Catherine the Great," Anthony.

Apple Supply Dwindles

The large quantity of apples that were put in cold storage at Milton-Freewater last fall is being rapidly diminished and the supply will soon be gone. Keeping the fruit over has proven very satisfactory as a speculation financially.

Athena High School Has Given Athletes

Homer Watts, Floyd Payne and Beryl Hodgen Lead in Records.

Athena high school stands at the head of Umatilla county schools in the development of athletes who went to the top in college and state athletics. Considering the size of the school, Athena high ranks well with the schools of the state.

In all branches of athletics, track, football, basketball and baseball, Athena high has always given a very creditable account of itself in county scholastic meets, and there have been seasons when she topped the list of contenders.

From Athena went Homer Watts who made an enviable record at Oregon, finishing his athletic career there as captain of the football team. Then there was Floyd (Mose) Payne, who finished up with the Winged M at Portland. One incident of where he burned 'em up while with Athena high, is mentioned on the sporting page of Sunday's Oregonian:

"Floyd (Mose) Payne, the Athena jackrabbit, used to thrill the spectators back in 1914 and 1915 by running off with first places in the two long runs. He was always good to cover the mile in the low 4-20s and the two-mile between 9:35 and 9:40. Payne pulled a good one at an eastern Oregon high school track meet before he donned the Webfoots' colors. One of the coaches who had a strong team entered in the Pendleton meet was ambitious and wanted his boys to win all the first places, which they almost did. This coach knew Payne was dangerous in the mile so he planted a quarter-miler in the event with instructions to run the Athena boy down in the first quarter.

When the starter sent the runners off for the four-lap grind, the 440 man, who was only good for that distance, stepped right out in front. Payne was on his heels and before the first lap was over Mose actually took the lead from the decoy, was a good 10 yards ahead when he crossed the starting line and before the race ended was so far ahead the rest of the entrants couldn't see him without turning around and running the opposite direction."

Under Coach Basler, now at Boise high school, Athena developed a winning football team and a championship basketball team of the district. On these teams and in the thick of every play for two seasons was Beryl Hodgen, one of the best linemen Oregon has had in many years. Recognizing his ability as a player and football strategist Captain McEwan has given special attention to his development, and this, his last year at Oregon, sees him captain of the team.

Another Athena athlete of promise,

JUDGE J. BAILEY



Judge Jennings Bailey of the District of Columbia Supreme court.

fall, is Wilbur Harden, who during the fall freshmen practice period, gave a good account of himself at end of the frosh team, who expects to return to Oregon this

Engagement of Former Athena Girl Announced

The Pendleton East Oregonian says: Announcement of the betrothal of Miss Velva Mansfield and Nat Kimball was made recently at the home of Mrs. R. Raymond when Miss Maryann Hansen and Miss Mildred Keith entertained the Thursday evening bridge club of which Miss Mansfield is a member.

Three tables of bridge were in play, Miss Blanche Furnish having high score and Miss Hansen second. During the supper hour the guests were seated at a beautifully decorated table centered by an old-fashioned bouquet. Each received a wee nosegay of dainty spring flowers, which held a card bearing the names of Miss Mansfield and Mr. Kimball and the date of their wedding which will be May 8.

Miss Mansfield, who is a charming girl and a very talented musician, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Mansfield of this city. Mr. Kimball is the son of Mrs. A. A. Kimball. He is an ex-service man, having served in the United States navy. They will make their home in Pendleton.

Community Church Gathering

There will be a gathering held in Masonic Hall, Tuesday April 12, 7:30 p. m. for the purpose of considering the blending of all those who desire unity in the local church work in Athena. Miss Lorraine Terry will lead the congregation in an old-fashioned Gospel Sing and a community quartette will furnish special music. Clifton Phillips will speak on the subject "Unity." The meeting will be open to discussion to all interested. Come, hear, work, pray and discuss this matter together.

Brownlee Found Guilty

A verdict of guilty to a charge of first degree murder was returned by the circuit court jury at Eugene in the case of Albert Brownlee, charged with the murder of Eston Hooker, posseman. Brownlee was wounded by a posseman but made his escape and was captured at Walla Walla.

April Showers



Commission's Ruling Gives Blank Option

Action Regarding Questionnaire Gives Assessors Acting Power.

The Associated Press reports that the state tax commission has passed a resolution which in effect leaves it to the opinion of the individual county assessors throughout the state whether the questionnaire printed under house bill 72 of the 1927 legislature shall be used by the assessors. The action was taken by the commission following a number of protests to certain parts of the questionnaire and threatened legal action with a view of submitting it to the people by referendum.

Notices will be sent out to assessors advising them of the action taken by the commission, and signifying that they may go ahead with their assessments under the questionnaire or may get the information required by an examination of the books of the firms being assessed or in any other effective way, the idea being that the assessor is held responsible for carrying out the terms of the law under which the questionnaire was printed.

Earl I. Fisher, state tax commissioner, indicated his belief that the action taken by the board will have the effect of making tax dodging possible in the future as in the past. Members of the board strenuously denied that their action will have the effect of abrogating the law in question as it was intended by the legislature to go into effect.

Athena Contestants

In the declamatory contest held for the grade schools of the county, Aaron Douglas in Division F, won first in patriotic, giving "Old Glory." In Division E, dramatic, Nadine Elder was second with "A Leak in the Dike." Miss Margaret Lee of Athena high school took second in the contest held at Pendleton Saturday evening, in the dramatic division, with "The Whistling Regiment."

Pendleton Race Meet

Pendleton's first annual race meet, at Pendleton, will be sponsored by the Elks, and the dates of the meeting have been set for May 20, 21 and 22. The races will be held at the Round-Up grounds and purses for the three days will be \$2000. Henry Collins, Fay LeGrow and William Switzer are the race committee.

Mad Animals Cause Alarm to Farmers in Bear Valley Country

Rabies, coyotes, dogs and farm animals, have terrorized farmers in the vicinity of Bear valley, in Grant county, Eastern Oregon who have appealed to government officers for help.

Stanley Jewett, head of the predatory animal division of the federal biological survey has sent an officer to the town of Izee, to cooperate with government hunters and men in combating the mad animals.

Chester Craddock, of Bear valley, reported that a large coyote invaded his barnyard and fought with two dogs until it was killed. The dogs became infected and had to be killed.

Raymond Vansil, of Bear valley, was attacked by his horse, which suddenly became rabid. Vansil escaped by jumping over a fence. The horse then chased a dog and ran into a barbed wire fence. Vansil killed the horse with his rifle.

Elmer Angell, of the Izee section, was driving through a field when a crazed cow crashed into his wagon and tried to reach him. He seized an iron bar and killed the cow.

William Phillips, also of the Izee district, was forced to kill three steers that were infected.

Steve's High Score

Pendleton won over Heppner and Monitor gun clubs in the Oregonian telegraphic shoot Sunday with a score of 74.4 High scores for Pendleton were made by Lee Matlock, 25; Ralph Park, 25; Omer Stephens, 24. Stephens is high point man of the Pendleton club in the present tournament with an average of 94, having broken 142 out of 150 targets shot at.

Asks Life Sentence

Appeals for the commutation of the death sentence which hangs over the head of James Willos for the part he played in the penitentiary break at Salem in August, 1925, to life imprisonment, were made before Governor Patterson by Willos' attorneys. The governor refused to give any intimation as to what action he would take.

League Baseball Sunday

The Blue Mountain League opens the season Sunday afternoon with Hermiston and the Reservation Indians playing at Round-Up grounds, and the Pendleton Buckaroos at Walla Walla.

National Champs

Cicero, Illinois, won the national basket ball championship in the tournament at Chicago Saturday night, when it defeated Batesville, Arkansas high school in a terrific contest, 18 to 10.

Union Pacific-Shoshone Indian Celebration Will Memorialize Friendship

Everlasting friendship between the Union Pacific and the Shoshone Indians was formally established on the Fort Hall Indian reservation north of Pocatello, Idaho, on March 31 in an ancient tribal ceremony of the Shoshones which perpetuated forever three generations of amicable relations between the two. Many years ago, when the infant Union Pacific was being constructed, numerous Indian tribes resented the invasion of the "iron horse" and its attendant "talking wire" (the telegraph line) into their hunting grounds, and bitterly opposed its construction.

But not the Shoshones. Under the leadership of Chief Tendoy, who was ruler of the Shoshone nation when Lincoln was president of the United States, this tribe showed sterling friendship toward the enterprise. They acted as guides for engineering parties, as hunters to supply meat, as scouts to locate and forestall hostile attacks on construction crews, and when such attacks occurred, they turned to and helped the U. P. men fight them off.

This friendliness is a tradition of the Shoshones, and one of the happier pages in the history of building the Union Pacific. And to commemorate it forever, representatives of President Carl R. Gray of the Union Pacific and Chief Tendoy III, grandson of the famous old warrior of General Dodge's time, met on the Fort Hall reservation to complete one of the most remarkable ceremonies on record between the red men and the white.

Millions Involved In Colossal Rail Decision

Washington, D. C.—Federal valuation of railroads for rate-making and all other purposes will be based upon costs, prices and wages prevailing during 1914 rather than upon the much higher levels of later years, a majority of the interstate commerce commission decided.

Railroad officials saw in the findings, which were handed down in sustaining the government's attempt to collect excess income from the St. Louis & O'Fallon railroad, a decision which may sway the computations attached to railroad property by billions of dollars.

"We are dealing here with one small railroad," said the majority opinion written by Commissioner Meyer. "Nevertheless, what we do in this case we must in principle do for all the railroads of the United States."

As the first effect of the sweeping policy outlined, the St. Louis & O'Fallon company was ordered to pay to the government within 90 days \$226,378, this amount being half the excess earnings the commission decided that it had in the years 1921 to 1924, inclusive. For other carriers the prospect is now clear that demands for excess earnings in amounts many times as great will be forthcoming from the government, though the final payments will not be met until the litigation is carried to the supreme court for confirmation or rejection of the commission's policy.

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CHICAGO ELECTION VIOLENT

5000 Armed Police Patrol the City to Protect Voters.

Chicago—Violence marked the opening hours of Chicago's three-party mayoralty election Tuesday as more than 100 squads of police whirled through the city attempting to keep peace.

In the first four hours two election judges had been kidnaped, two voters held up by rifle-armed gangsters, voters in one ward intimidated, two precinct clubs bombed, and several arrests had been made.

The flash of machine guns in the sunlight denoted Chicago police's answer to the riotous spirit. Thirty-five squads, trained in manning the rapid-fire guns, were on constant patrol duty to prevent outbreaks of serious rioting.

Police are worked in 12-hour shifts to keep violence to a minimum and it is estimated that more than 5000 patrolmen patrolled the city during the day. The first shooting was reported from a west side precinct, where a roadster drew up in front of the polling place and five shots were fired into the building.

Coolidge Wrist Sprain is Rheumatism. Washington, D. C.—President Coolidge has recovered from rheumatism in his right wrist which has curtailed his White House handshaking the past few weeks. What was at first believed to be a sprain or strain was diagnosed by Dr. W. S. Bayer of Baltimore as "old fashioned rheumatism," to use the president's words.

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Federal Valuation of Roads for Rate Making Based on 1914 Costs.

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