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TAX RETURNS GAIN DESPITE RATE CUT

**\$25,482,690 Increase in Rev-
enue for 1924 Over 1923
is Shown.**

Washington, D. C.—Despite a reduction in rates, treasury receipts from taxation on personal incomes for 1924 are greater by \$25,482,690 than for the previous year.

The total of personal tax payments for 1924 is \$689,134,185, or a gain of 3.7 per cent over taxes received on 1923 incomes. The growth in the total receipts occurred notwithstanding a decrease of nearly 400,000 in the number of returns filed, which to September 30 last was 7,289,481.

Statistics of the 1924 income made public by the internal revenue bureau as the house ways and means committee neared completion of its work on a new tax law, showed an aggregate personal net income of \$25,023,210,894. That amount, the bureau calculated, was about three-fourths of 1 per cent greater than the net income in 1923.

There were substantial decreases in the number of returns for the classes with incomes from \$1000 to \$4000. For 1923 a total of 2,515,324 filed returns on incomes from \$1000 to \$2000, while in 1924 the number was 2,350,494. There was a reduction from 2,740,790 to 2,308,862 in the number of returns on incomes from \$2000 to \$3000. Those

between \$3000 and \$4000 decreased from 1,125,462 to 1,061,346.

Increases were shown in the number of returns for the class beginning with incomes of \$5000 and extending to the millionaire class.

The report disclosed that approximately one-third of the estimated amount of outstanding tax-exempt securities are held by persons having a net income of \$5000 or more. The treasury frequently has calculated the amount of such securities at \$15,000,000,000 and the statistics compiled from the tax returns showed that \$5,318,569,294 of such paper was held by individuals.

GOTHAM EASILY HIT, SAYS COL. MITCHELL

Washington, D. C.—Colonel William Mitchell took the witness stand before the court-martial trying him for breach of discipline as a result of his public criticism of the administration of the army and navy air services.

For the third time within a few months, the air crusader repeated under oath his reasons for assailing those in charge of governmental aviation and for his advocacy of a larger and better trained and equipped air force.

Much of his testimony hinged upon the same points he had stressed last spring before the house aircraft committee and later before the president's special air board.

He then recited a long succession of recommendations regarding aviation made by him and rejected by the war department. He said he never had been able to have a study made of the precautions a city like New York should take to defend itself from an air attack.

"If an enemy came within 100 miles of New York," he said, "he could stand off in an airship, after picking up an identifying point, and I believe every aerial torpedo he fired would fall within an area of the size of New York city."

COLONEL MITCHELL BACKED

Rickenbacker Says United States 8th in Air Power Among Nations.

Washington, D. C.—That the graveyards of America bear mute testimony to the hazard of human life in using wartime material on peacetime flying fields, was the quiet assertion of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, American world war "ace," before the Mitchell court-martial.

He called sending men into the air without parachute equipment "suicide," and said anti-aircraft guns were no protection against air attacks.

Rickenbacker said the United States ranked eighth in air power, behind France, Great Britain, Italy, Germany, Russia, Japan and Poland.

Lieutenant H. W. Sheridan, an army air service observer who was aboard the aircraft carrier Langley during the Hawaiian maneuvers, told the court-martial that the naval air units taking part in the maneuvers were inefficient, poorly organized and improperly commanded.

Will Seek 2.75 Per Cent Beer

Washington, D. C.—Increase in the alcoholic content allowed in beer from one-half of 1 per cent to 2.75 per cent will be sought by amendment of the Volstead act to be proposed at the coming session of congress by Representative Dyer, republican, of Missouri. The proposal was defeated last session in the judiciary committee.

Atoms in the Sun

In a "dwarf star" like the sun, suggests Professor Eddington, colliding atoms may destroy each other, thus liberating the energy locked up in them, so that the interior of such stars gets hotter, while their mass becomes smaller.

OBSERVER WANT ADS
Rates: Under 15 words, 25c
15 to 30 words, 50c
Over 30 wds., 1 1/2c per wd.

JERSEY Bull for sale, 2-year old. Gentle and easy to handle. Arthur T. Holt, Kent, Oregon. 31-n27

WEANLING PIGS for sale, \$5 each. Pekin ducks, \$1.50 each. Homer D. Belache, phone 2F15, Moro, Oregon. 31-n27

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RAILROADS CHARGED WITH BEER RUNNING

Chicago.—"The expose has just begun," says District Attorney Edwin A. Olson, whose investigation of the \$9,000,000 middle western beer syndicate bore its first fruit Wednesday.

Beer running was charged against the Boston & Maine railroad, employees of the New York Central and the Milwaukee & St. Paul railroads, three prohibition agents, a Chicago police lieutenant, brewers and almost a score of others.

The Boston & Maine is the first railroad ever indicted for beer running by federal grand jury.

The evidence on which the indictments were returned revealed an amazing story of how beer runners are alleged to have "fixed" railroads and their employees, prohibition agents and police say.

The shipment of beer on which the government's charges are based was seized at Morton Grove in September. It was alleged to have been shipped west by the Gilt Edge Beverage company of Lawrence, Mass. The Boston & Maine Railroad company is alleged to have routed the five carloads of beer so that they could not be traced by the authorities.

The charges range from violation of the prohibition law to conspiracy to obstruct justice.

SECRET BALLOT IS FAVORED

Closing Legislature's Records Until Adjournment Urged.

Salem, Or.—Secret ballot on all measures submitted to the legislature and withholding from the public the results of such ballots until the close of the legislative sessions was proposed in a resolution adopted by the

Salem grange here.

"The constitution should be so amended," read the resolution, "as to provide that members of the legislative assembly shall vote by secret ballot upon all measures and that the record of such vote be made public after the close of the legislative session, and that such other changes be made in the laws, organic and statutory, as may be necessary to make the method of secret voting in the legislative assembly practical."

Mosul Tangle Up to League.

The Hague.—The permanent court of international justice in its findings regarding the dispute between Great Britain and Turkey over the Mosul area of Mesopotamia declares the decision to be taken by the council of the League of Nations shall be binding upon the parties concerned and shall constitute definite determination of the frontier between Turkey and the British mandate state of Iraq (Mesopotamia), of which Mosul is a part. The league council's decision must be by unanimous vote.

Eastern States Report Tremors.

Boston.—Earth tremors were reported early Monday in several sections of southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Fall River and Newport and Warren, R. I. all reported having felt the disturbance, which was generally believed to have been an earthquake.

Banker Bill Past House at Olympia.

Olympia, Wash.—The Banker bill, depriving the governor of all control over state reclamation and land settlement, was passed by the house of representatives by a vote of 66 to 29, with two members absent.

American Bankers Extend \$100,000,000

New York.—American bankers have extended a loan of \$100,000,000 to Italy.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Inform- ation of Our Readers.

Five candidates seek the office of district attorney of Polk county to succeed Joseph Helgeson, who has been appointed deputy United States district attorney.

Frank C. Clark of Medford was re-appointed by Governor Pierce as a member of the state board of architects' examiners. His commission dates from May 20, 1925.

The salary of the Tillamook county dairy and food commissioner, now \$175 a month, was ordered by the county court to be reduced to \$1 a month beginning December 1.

One of the largest wildcats ever seen in Klamath county was accidentally killed on the Ashland-Klamath highway when it was run down by an autoist from Corvallis.

E. H. Lister, state traffic officer, with head, walters in Eugene, was injured when his motorcycle and an automobile collided on the Pacific highway at West Springfield.

Wire entanglements, which have been under construction at the Oregon state penitentiary for the past few weeks, are completed. The wires are located on top of the prison walls.

M. G. Nease of Portland has filed suit in circuit court at Eugene against the county court, seeking judgment of \$24,348.61 alleged due for cruising 100,000 acres of timber in Lane county.

Timber valued at \$879 was destroyed or damaged in the Cascade national forest by fire this year, ac-

ording to a report on the fires in the forest prepared by Nelson F. Macduff, supervisor.

One hundred and four mills reporting to West Coast Lumbermen's association for the week ending November 14 manufactured 99,989,931 feet of lumber, sold 108,766,554 feet and shipped 75,495,032 feet.

Two hundred ten direct inquiries for agricultural information on Oregon were received during the first two weeks of November by the land settlement department of the Portland Chamber of Commerce.

A resolution favoring the proposed extension of the state normal course for public school teachers from two to four years was unanimously adopted by the Polk county W. C. T. U. in convention at Independence.

Only 58 votes were cast in Medford's school district election on the question of approving the annual budget and raising the school tax of the city more than 6 per cent above that of 1924, and every vote was favorable.

Dave Arthur, member of a prominent Baker county family of mining operators, was acquitted of a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of G. C. Tucker in a fight in the Mother Lode mine September 1.

R. J. Ferguson of Portland was sentenced to three years in the state penitentiary by Judge Eakin at Astoria when he entered a plea of guilty to a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of R. C. Graham.

Angling for trout of 10 inches in length or more in all streams of the state, which has heretofore been permitted during the regular closed season from November 30 to April 15, will be prohibited this year above the portions of streams not actually affected by tides, under a new law enacted by the last session of the legislature.