

Country's National Reserve

From the standpoint of national defense, an intelligent knowledge of and skill in the use of small arms is vital in upholding our American system of government which depends almost wholly upon the non-professional soldier in times of emergency.

Legislation which would place the law abiding citizen on the same basis as a criminal, in that it would deny him the right to purchase and use revolvers and pistols for lawful purposes, would in time actually destroy the reserve strength which has protected this nation and gained for it the respect of the whole world.

Charter No. 216 Reserve District No. 12 REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE BANK OF MORO

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Resources like Loans and discounts, and Liabilities like Capital stock paid in.

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STATE OF OREGON, County of Sherman, ss. I, F. E. Fertner, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Charter No. 240 Reserve District No. 12 REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE FARMERS STATE BANK

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Resources like Loans and discounts, and Liabilities like Capital stock paid in.

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STATE OF OREGON, County of Sherman, ss. I, S. W. Searcy, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Electricity is Safe

Faithful When Simple Rules Are Observed

Common sense is all anyone need use in order to keep electricity in its place in the home—the safest, most faithful and dependable of servants.

- 1. If a fuse—the electrical safety valve—blows out you are overloading your wiring system or using a defective appliance. The trouble is not corrected by screwing in a larger fuse.

News Items from Kent

Miss Helen Gayton is attending business college in Portland.

Mrs. Wm. Young is at the Barnet home this week to help care for the sick.

Mrs. J. U. Leonard has moved into town to be near school during the bad weather.

Born to the wife of Claude McKay an 8 1/2 pound daughter, January 5th. Dr. Polky attending.

Quite a number of sympathizing friends attended the little Barnet baby's funeral at Grass Valley Monday.

Mrs. A. L. Sanders and children, of near Moro, are visiting at the home of Mrs. Sander's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Morrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Sweet from near Dufer, who have been visiting the home folks over the holidays, returned to their home Friday.

After quite a spell of zero weather we are very glad to alog around in mud, and slush, even though it has been great sport to throw snowballs.

Mrs. George Murry who has been in a Dalles hospital for an operation is convalescing at her parents home, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Morrow, near Kent.

Some of the water pipes got by the cold snap without getting frosted and some are frozen yet. We noticed Jimmy Matthes has to follow the water wagon too.

Miss Lillian Schassen spent the holidays with her father in his new home in Portland, returning the first week in January on account of the highway being blocked.

The small son of Frank Haynes was taken to a Dalles hospital with blood poison on Monday. The trouble started with a slight burn on a finger, infecting the arm at the elbow.

Greatest Fire Loss Record

The report of the National Board of Fire Underwriters on fire losses for the year 1926 amazed the public, created a stir in industries and was regarded with concern in fire insurance circles, when the largest fire loss in history was announced.

The large staff in the Actuarial Bureau of the National Board took one full year to compile, record, assimilate, classify and confirm each loss.

Of the stupendous fire losses suffered by the nation in 1926, New York sustained the largest, \$58,476,246, Illinois second with \$32,553,614, Pennsylvania third with \$26,414,776, California fourth with \$26,979,121, Massachusetts fifth with \$24,260,563 and Texas sixth with \$18,514,895.

The causes of fire known as strictly preventable, were traced to the following sources: defective chimneys and flues \$23,111,618; fireworks and firecrackers \$718,942; gas, natural and artificial \$2,827,353; hot ashes, coals and open fires \$6,851,460; ignition of grease, oil, tar, and asphalt \$1,880,240; matches and smoking \$30,160,233; open lights \$3,142,172; petroleum and its products \$14,978,599; rubbish and litter \$1,809,136; sparks on roof \$14,172,947; steam and hot water pipes \$395,640; stoves and furnaces, boilers and their pipes \$21,977,114; electricity \$13,783,303; explosions \$2,565,596; exposure of buildings on fire including conflagrations \$54,074,554; sparks from machinery \$8,324,071; incendiarism \$2,202,492; lightning \$18,205,362; miscellaneous known causes \$4,191,737; sparks from smokstacks and bonfire combustion \$6,348,519; spontaneous combustion \$15,498,812; miscellaneous unknown causes recorded \$202,369,737—these make up the year's total of \$561,980,751 which is \$12,551,898 more than the preceding year, \$68,574,699 more than in 1921, and \$303,602,799 more than in 1916.

Topsoil Roads Practical

The Department of Agriculture Bureau of Public Roads has been doing some remarkable work in surface treatment of topsoil roads.

The experiments involved the use of bituminous materials. Judging from illustrations published showing work being done, thorough preparation of roadbed and thorough mixing of materials are essential. Tests carried on warrant the conclusion that a double surface treatment composed of a prime coat followed with a binder coat of heavy bituminous material and mineral covering, is a successful and economical treatment for soil type roads, provided the surface is well supported and bonded.

Surface treatments of well bonded topsoil roads with light, slow drying oil which forms a plastic mat, are likely to prove successful under light traffic, or for a limited period under heavy traffic. A large mileage of topsoil roads has poorly bonded surfaces, and it is hoped to develop mixing treatment to meet this condition.

Economical waterproof surfaces for thousands of miles of country roads are essential to modern transportation methods of farming sections.

State Tax Equalization

New Tax System to Relieve Real Property Will Be Discussed at Gathering in Portland

Under the auspices of the Pacific Northwest Real Estate association, a tax equalization conference will be held at Portland Friday and Saturday of this week.

The purpose of the meeting is to formulate plans for a new tax system for northwestern states, it was said, relieving real property from its present heavy burden.

On the first day of the conference general discussion of the tax problem will take place, and on the second day it is proposed to formulate a tax law to be submitted to the various state legislatures for adoption.

There is no question but that the present system of taxation is driving prospective investors in real estate away from the northwest, because of the extremely high rates and the high percentage of the burden carried by real estate. California has a system which distributes the load, and while its per capita tax levy is higher than that of the northwestern states real property of the same value is taxed fifty per cent less.

This is done through a modified income tax plan which the gross income of public utility corporation and the net income of private corporation is taxed 7 per cent, while the income from intangible property is taxed at 7 per cent. This money is used for the state, leaving real property to pay only that tax money required by the city and state governments.

California has realized the importance and economic value of real estate and has framed a tax system which actually encourages investment in that commodity, which is the only one that can be bought and sold without being taken out of the state. Real property cannot be moved to evade unfair taxation, but unfair taxation will most certainly, as it has up here, prevent the influx of capital for real investment and development.

Keen interest has been created in the tax conference and business men, bankers, property owners, legislators, educators and taxation experts in all parts of the northwest have signified intention of attending the meeting.

Wasco January 19 Thur. 7:30

Grass Valley January 21 Sat. 7:30

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Fifteen thousand horses, twenty thousand cattle, three hundred buffaloes—some of the features in "TRAIL DUST."

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Independent Warehouse & Milling Co. R. H. McKean, Manager, Wasco, Oregon. DEALERS IN Lime, Plaster, Cement, Cedar Posts, Builders Supplies, Lumber, Wood, Coal and Hay. MANUFACTURERS OF MILL FEED AND FLOUR

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