

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER HOLMAN BELIEVES COUNTY GOVERNMENT COST CAN BE REDUCED \$20,000

Editor Outlook:—The following statement has the approval of the District Attorney as to the interpretation of the law and also is approved as to the facts by the Assessor and the Auditor of the County: In 1917 Multnomah County levied for County purposes

a tax of 4.5 mills which produced.....	\$1,375,315.49
This year the maximum amount which Multnomah County can levy under the 6 per cent limitation is 106 per cent of \$1,375,315.49.....	\$1,457,834.42
Multnomah County is now advertising an estimate of County expenses and appropriations for next year requiring.....	\$2,063,890.99
Less an estimated gross income plus unexpended balances on hand amounting.....	\$ 297,500.00
Net revenues required for next year are therefore.....	\$1,766,390.99
From which we are permitted to deduct by the 6 per cent tax limitation law the interest and installments of the bonded indebtedness.....	\$ 171,250.00
Net amount affected by 6 per cent law.....	\$1,595,140.99
Subtract (Item above).....	\$1,457,834.42
Excess in budget as advertised over maximum permissible.....	\$ 137,306.57

Therefore, on December 31st, of this year the advertised budget must, in my opinion, be reduced \$137,306.57 to meet the requirements of the budget laws. The question then is what items shall be selected as the ones whose expenditures is the least urgent and necessary for the public welfare. Of course, or this there is bound to be a great difference of opinion and I herewith record my notions simply as my best judgment in the matter for a basis for consideration and a plan for specific and definite decision. I believe that the following items can be

eliminated without seriously embarrassing the county administration and at the same time leave ample funds for a very progressive and constructive program. These items are suggested for elimination not only because I believe that their expenditure is not absolutely necessary at this time and that therefor the property of the county should not be burdened with a tax to provide them even though it could be levied legally but also with a view to protecting an ample fund for the construction of a sanitary and modern county hospital, which, is, in my opinion, most urgently needed.

Item 51—Rose Festival.....	\$ 32,600.00
Item 47—Emergency Fund.....	40,000.00
Item 55—Proposed condemnation of property at Crown Point.....	5,000.00
Item 54—Comfort station at Multnomah.....	8,000.00
<b>Road Fund.</b>	
Item R-1—Greeley Street extension.....	42,650.00
Item R-2—Other road items.....	9,056.57
	\$137,306.57

### Item 51.

I doubt if any humane or charitable citizen of Multnomah county cognizant of our present wretched hospital facilities will insist upon a Rose Festival at the expense of a county hospital when he clearly understands that that is precisely the conditions under which it must be financed.

### Item 47.

By eliminating the entire emergency fund, I realize that no specific amount is available to meet unforeseen contingencies which no doubt must arise during the coming year; however, I feel that such ample funds have been provided for the detailed administration of all the departments that if the Board of County Commissioners will but demand a cutting of operating expenses and if the other elective officers of the county together with Juvenile Court and Circuit Court Judges will co-operate in a sincere effort on the part of the Board of County Commissioners, I am sure sufficient funds will be available for a real business administration of county affairs.

### Item 55.

This item is proposed for elimination for the reason that I believe that this same amount of money invested in a county hospital is more necessary at this time.

### Item 54.

This very necessary facility can be financed from the \$15,000 available for the maintenance of the Columbia River Highway.

### Item R-1.

The budget appropriation as advertised provides \$142,600.00 for the Greeley street extension 70 feet wide. I quote from the report of the Commissioner of Public Works on this subject:

"As indicating the ability of the assessment district to bear the cost of the improvement without unusual burdens, the Council is informed that the assessed value of the lands and improvements within the assessment district is, roughly, from thirteen to

fifteen millions of dollars and, considering that assessments are generally about 60 per cent, only, of the market value, the lands to be assessed have an actual market value of between twenty and twenty-five millions of dollars. If this rough estimate be correct, then the assessment for the extension alone, on the basis of an approximate cost of \$113,788.00, will not exceed about six-tenths of one per cent of the actual value, or 1 per cent of the assessed value."

As between it and the proposed hospital, I favor the hospital and in any event there will remain \$100,000 available for this very worthy project this year if it is decided by the county to embark upon it. This amount will provide a roadway 27 feet wide accommodating three lines of travel similar to the Union avenue approach to the Interstate bridge. The additional width in the advertised budget is for the purpose of providing a roadbed for street car tracks.

### Item R-2.

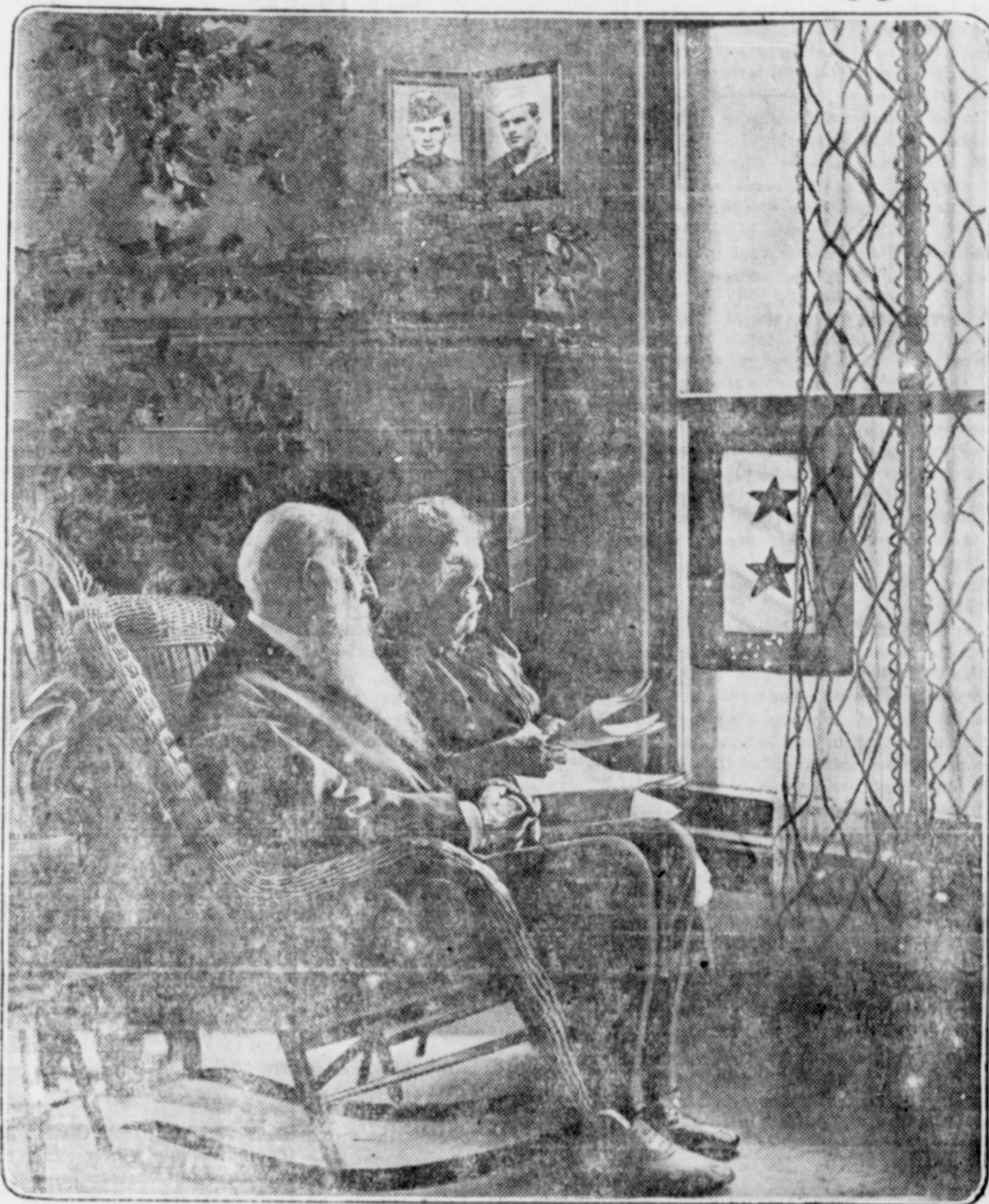
After consultation with a road department representative I am advised that as much as \$14,000 can be deducted from the road budget and still probably sufficient funds would be available to do all the construction which we can reasonably consummate, during the working season.

### Conclusion.

I have great confidence that the administrative cost of county government can be reduced possibly as much as \$20,000 per annum which is only a reduction of approximately one per cent of the entire budget appropriations, without diminishing efficiency, if a sincere and capable effort is made by all heads of departments to do so and that ample funds will still be available after deducting \$137,306.57 from the advertised budget to administer adequately the affairs of Multnomah county.

RUFUS C. HOLMAN,  
County Commissioner.

## Their Christmas Gift by George L. Louis



OUR blessings on those boys, O mother dear,  
That through them we can give with loving cheer  
The Christmas gift from Christ of Bethlehem,  
'Tis this: 'O peace on earth, good will to men.'  
Our boys, so brave and true, they understand,  
They fight for peace for ev'ry oppressed land;  
Yes, staunch and firm, they conquer unjust foe  
To give the gift that Christ died to bestow."

### FORTIETH WEDDING DAY CELEBRATED SUNDAY

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Manning celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary at their home in Gresham on Sunday last, December 22, with a family reunion at which their three children and eight grandchildren were present to do them honor. A daughter-in-law and one son-in-law were also present.

Mr. and Mrs. Manning were married at Oakland, Oregon, on December 22, 1878, by Rev. P. C. Parker, one of the pioneer ministers of the northwest. More than half their married life has been spent in Gresham, their children being two daughters and one son.

The immediate members of the family were the only ones at the celebration, numbering fifteen, all told. They were: Mrs. Bessie M. Kronenberg with her daughter Cecelia and son Lafayette; L. H. Manning, his wife Margaret, daughter Hermie, sons Paul and Edwin; Mrs. Marietta Howard, her husband, Louis D. Howard, daughter Louise, sons Charles and Norman.

The house was beautifully decorated with holly, ferns and begonias. There were numerous tokens of loving remembrance, coupled with the spirit of the day and of the holiday season so close at hand.

### AUGUST WEDIN VICTIM OF PNEUMONIA

August Wedin of Gresham died at Good Samaritan hospital Sunday morning, after an illness of one week from pneumonia. He was aged 56 years, 9 months and 19 days. He leaves a widow and six children. One son, Corporal Edner Wedin is with the American forces in France. The other children are Ruth, Rhoda, Olive, Vernon and Waldren. Three brothers and three sisters are also left to mourn.

The funeral will be held from the Haley Baptist church on Thursday, December 26th at 1 o'clock. The interment will be in Damascus cemetery.

Mr. Wedin was born in Sweden, March 3, 1862. He came to America 37 years ago and settled on a homestead near Astoria. After about 10 years he went to Minnesota where he married and where the family lived for several years.

In April, 1903, they again came to Oregon and settled on a farm on the Damascus road near Gresham, which is now the family home. He was a member of the Haley Baptist church.

Extra Outlooks of the Christmas issue will be mailed at 5c each.

When in doubt try a Want Ad.

### STORE ENTERED AGAIN, OTHER PLACES VISITED

The grocery store of A. W. Metzger was entered a second time by burglars on Saturday night, entrance being effected this time through the basement. So far as could be determined nothing was taken, but there is a probability that some articles are missing. Some merchandise was found scattered about indicating that the burglars had been frightened away before securing their loot.

The Gresham meat market was also entered the same night and an attempt was made on the front door of the Kidder Hardware company. As in the Metzger store, nothing has been missed from the meat market but it is likely that some meats were taken. Marks of a crowbar or "Jimmy" were plainly visible at all three places.

The demobilization of the office-holders is going to be one of the most difficult jobs in connection with the war.

### Here Is a Bargain.

One DeLaval separator, 750 lbs., practically new.  
One Empire separator, 850 lbs., practically new.  
Your choice cheap.  
Hessel's Farm Machinery Store, Gresham, Phone 544.

## HIGHWAY LOOP AROUND MOUNT HOOD IS BEST

The triumph of allied arms and the splendid part that Oregon's sons have played in the great world war, have thrilled the public mind to such an extent that the only conception of a tribute to them is a lasting memorial of some kind. Bounding hearts express our gratitude and pride in their great achievement. With one heart and one mind we have firmly resolved upon some fitting memorial which will measure up to the great service performed.

Similar impulse inspired the citizen of Portland to memorialize the heroes of the Spanish-American war in the magnificent monument on the courthouse plaza, of which everyone is proud. Who begrudges the money its erection entailed? At this time a great wave of sentiment is sweeping over the country, seeking to adequately memorialize the deeds of the boys who were "over there." Throughout every state, municipal, county and voluntary organization are talking about the erection of hospitals, libraries, town halls, college and school buildings or discussing highways or public parks.

It is therefore natural and inevitable that some great memorial should arise to typify the spirit and the noble part Oregon has played in the greatest world war. The fine initiative of our governor, and the various war boards and committees, have placed the state in a position unsurpassed by any other in the union. How desirable, then, that Oregon achievement should be adequately memorialized!

What form should such a memorial take? Certainly in our own case a monument would not be desirable. The humanitarianism of the age points in another direction, insisting that whilst memorials should have an artistic and sentimental side, they at the same time should render a service to the people who will build and pay for them.

It has been suggested that a museum would be appropriate in which could be housed the valuable relics of the state, including the trophies won by our heroes in France.

Another suggestion worthy of consideration is a great state park on the park blocks of Portland, with a magnificent highway leading to the state capital. It would be a Portland scheme, however, assisted by the counties of Clackamas, Polk and Marion to the mutual advantage of all, but it would not belong to the state at large.

But there is another idea. It has been mentioned before but so far has not been taken up with the spirit it deserves. It is a highway loop around Mount Hood. Every argument is in its favor that could be advanced for any other idea. It would be the most magnificent memorial tribute that could be given our soldiers—the greatest of its kind in the whole United States.

With the Columbia river highway completed to Hood River and beyond; with its reputation as the greatest scenic wonder of the nation it would be only appropriate that it be linked by a loop around the famous mountain with another highway across the Cascades, over the historic Barlow road, thus forming not only a memorial but a continuation of the wonderful scenic attractions not surpassed anywhere in the world.

There is another incentive: The great loop could be partially paid for out of the state highway fund, thus making every person in the state a contributor. The ends of the loop could meet in Portland with a choice of several paved roads into the city from this side of Sandy river. Every argument for any other memorial that could be advanced would be equally applicable here and such a scenic highway would never be in danger of destruction. On the other hand it would be constantly improved and embellished, and in time would be the most wonderful highway in the world.

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### For Croup.

"Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is splendid for croup," writes Mrs. Edward Hassett, Frankfort, N. Y. "My children have been quickly relieved of attacks of this dreadful complaint by its use." This remedy contains no opium or other narcotic, and may be given to a child as confidently as to an adult.—Adv.

### NEXT ANNUAL DAIRY SHORT COURSE DRAWS

Many experienced butter and cheese makers have reported their intention to attend the annual short course for butter and cheese makers at the college, January 6 to 31. The old operators want to return and brush up on new methods. Many new men are planning to get their training at the short course to fit them for work as helpers in various factories. The course is open to both men and women.

### LOCAL DAIRYMEN TO MEET AT HILLSBORO

Hillsboro has been selected as the next meeting place of the Oregon Dairymen's association January 14-15 at the request of many farmers. The district is characterized as "the heart of a rapidly growing dairy country," by P. M. Brandt, secretary of the association and professor of dairying here. Delegates from the Gresham branch will attend.

Auto accessories for all cars. C. E. Osburn & Co.