

PORTLAND JOURNAL SEEKS REPEAL OF PUBLICATION LAW

(From the Salem Journal.)

The publisher of the Portland Journal is the prince of demagogues in Oregon. His paper, the self-appointed guardian of the poor and oppressed, was founded and backed by the money of the richest men of Portland—the men who have fattened upon special privilege. Always loudly on the side of the "plain people," it has never so far forgotten its obligation to its wealthy backers as to specifically attack a public service corporation, or special interest in the city of Portland in which these men are interested, no matter how flagrant their disregard of public rights or the larger interests of the community might have been. It is outspoken against graft as long as it does not strike too close to home.

The Journal's course in this matter of the publication of the delinquent tax list is typical of its entire career. It charges that there has been graft in the publication of the list in Multnomah county, and since almost everything in that county is tainted with graft, we are not disposed to challenge its statement. Yet it was one of the newspapers to participate in graft, even soliciting the county court for it, and there is no evidence on record that it has returned a dollar of this graft money to the public treasury or the downtrodden delinquent taxpayer for whom it sorrows so deeply. Undoubtedly, however, in keeping with its reputation for hypocrisy and deception, the grandstand play of turning state's evidence at this late day and confessing the sins of its past is considered of greater value than the tainted money it would receive from a continuance of the graft.

But outside of Multnomah county the publication of the delinquent tax list is not, never has been, a graft. The price paid is only commensurate with the service rendered, and the service is one of the most important in the conduct of county affairs in a business-like way. The county expenses are made up in budget form and a tax levy is made to cover them—if the taxes assessed are paid. If they are not paid the property of the delinquent must be sold to realize the money necessary to meet the county budget. There is only one way this can honestly and effectively be done: by advertising thoroughly, with a full and correct description, all the property delinquent and the date upon which it will be sold if the taxes are not settled before that date. The burden falls—not upon the man who has paid his taxes—but where it should fall—upon the property owner who has not paid. It is properly not an expense upon the general treasury, and the present method of advertising this delinquent list and charging the cost against the delinquents recognizes this fact.

But the delinquent has rights in this matter also. One of these rights is full notice of his delinquency, through publication in its fullest possible sense, and not by the precarious, uncertain and unbusiness-like method of postal cards through the mail, an expense which the man who has already paid his taxes, would have to bear. Assessments are made a full year, or even more, before taxes become delinquent, and a large amount of property changes hands between the time of making the assessment and the levying of the taxes, so that a large percentage of these postal cards would go astray. Many persons would find their property bought out from under them when they had supposed the former owner had paid the taxes, and many non-resident taxpayers who had in the meantime changed their postoffice addresses, would never receive the postal card notice.

And to think of a great champion of the poor and oppressed like the Portland Journal advocating the sale of a delinquent taxpayer's home upon other notice to himself or the public than that contained on a postal card that might or might not have reached him.

And who, besides the Portland Journal, wants the sunlight of publicity discarded for the dark and dubious methods that are suggested by that paper? The court house zone of tax lien speculators, warrant scammers and hangers-on. Possibly the abstract companies which thrive on tangled titles—and all of these worthies who would take advantage of the hard-pressed, ignorant or perhaps careless property owner. You will find one of these tin-horn county courthouse speculators hiding behind every county judge, clerk or sheriff who wants to discontinue the advertising of the delinquent tax list.

Business efficiency, honesty and fair play demand the advertising of the delinquent tax list in the most open and above-board manner—through the newspaper—and the Portland Journal knows it. Its sol-

LEGISLATURE TO TAKE FALL OUT HIGH LIVING COST

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 24.—The Oregon legislature is continuing its assault on the high cost of living. Already two bills have been introduced into the house of representatives providing that keepers of cold storage plants list with the state dairy and food commissioner the number of articles of food stored with them. Storage would also be limited to one year.

Thus, the framers of the bills say, monopolies on the food markets will be done away with and any attempts to corner commodities to await high prices would be laid bare.

Lined up with the legislators in their attacks on the high prices is the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs, which assisted in the making of one of the bills, which was introduced by Representative A. C. Callan, Portland.

The women say the legislature is but another battle ground in the war they are waging on high prices and which started when a boycotting campaign was waged by them in Portland recently.

"Every person who purchases a fishing and hunting license in Oregon should automatically become a deputy warden with full power to make arrests for violations of the law," declared Representative Clay C. Clark, of Arlington, at a recent meeting of the joint ways and means committee. Mr. Clark also suggested that the duties now performed by the deputy state game wardens be shifted to various peace officers of the state and that the money expended for salaries be used by the fish and game commission for improvement work.

A memorial to congress urging immediate passage of a federal law requiring universal military service is being prepared by Senator George R. Wilbur, Hood River, for introduction soon. Senator Wilbur is chairman of the senate military committee and is an officer in the national guard.

THOMAS ADVISES HOUSE TO GO SLOW

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 24.—The house put the brakes on the consolidation program yesterday when the bill by Thomas providing for the elimination of one tax commissioner came up for final passage.

Thomas asked the house to refer his bill to the committee on consolidations with the argument that the house should proceed carefully in regard to all consolidations, for fear that a mistake might be made detrimental to the administrative work of the state government.

"If there is going to be any careful and constructive work tending towards consolidations of commissions, it is apparent that this will have to come from the house and not from the senate," Thomas said in support of his motion. "Our friends of the senate are evidently trying to make a record for speed. We do not want to do this. It is also evident that when we pass a measure we must do so after careful thought, for we can not trust to the other house to give it careful thought, and kill it should it be ill-advised."

The house sent the bill on to the consolidation committee without discussion.

MILITIA ON BORDER FAVORS COMPULSION

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Representative A. P. Gardner told the senate sub-committee on universal military service today that figures he had compiled among National Guard regiments in the El Paso district showed an overwhelming sentiment among the state troops in favor of such legislation. A total of 572 answers were received to a list of questions submitted through Brigadier General Bell, commanding the district. They showed, Mr. Gardner said, that 16 colonels, 250 captains and 254 first sergeants, or a total of 560, had declared in favor of compulsory military training and service.

aid to the poor and down-trodden taxpayer would, if headed by the legislators, turn him over in every county to the tender mercy of a gang of tax certificate speculators, who would never neglect to extort the last penny of penalty and interest.

GERMANS FAIL TO STIR INDIANS TO REVOLUTION

SIMLA, India, Jan. 24.—From a time early in the war right up to the present moment Germany has never ceased attempts to stir the Indian empire to revolt, according to Sir Charles Cleveland, director of criminal intelligence in this country, who made this statement to a correspondent of the Associated Press. Sir Charles characterized the plots as "clumsy, belated, too theoretical and based on a misunderstanding of Indian character," and declared that the scheme failed chiefly because of "the sanity of the great Indian public which has withheld its support."

Sir Charles is reputed to know more about those in whom the secret service naturally would be interested than any other man in India. For years he has made a study of that class which favors the darkness of night for its comings and its goings, and now as head of the secret service the government relies upon him to check untoward occurrences in any section before they have grown into a serious menace.

"There has been some trouble in India," said Sir Charles, "but it has fallen very far short both of the picture drawn in enemy publications and of the enemy's desire. The state of India all through the war seems to have exposed a very big miscalculation on the part of the Germans."

"It would be interesting to examine how far this miscalculation was due to a misunderstanding of normal Indian affairs, and how far to a misarrangement of plans for causing trouble in India and among Indians outside India during the war. My own impression is that Germany thought India would need very little extraneous prompting and assistance to rise against the British if the latter were in serious embarrassment owing to a big continental war, and that therefore not very much attention was paid by the German government to investigation in India before the war. Where and how did the German government get that idea? Was it conveyed to them by secret unknown agents or by their consular officers in India or by some over-confident Indian extremist or by British panic mongers?"

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—Shareholders of the Bethlehem Steel corporation will be asked, at a special meeting on February 24 to ratify their directors' recommendation to increase the common stock of the company from \$15,000,000 to \$60,000,000, to provide for a common stock dividend of 200 per cent. The directors also increased the common stock dividend from 7 1/2 per cent to 10 per cent quarterly and offered the common stockholders the right to subscribe to \$15,000,000 new stock at par on a basis of share for share of their present holdings.

This bonus was declared in Wall street today to be one of the most magnificent "melons" ever divided by an industrial corporation. Inasmuch as it is understood that the present stock issue is controlled by Charles M. Schwab and his friends, there is virtually no doubt that the directors' proposition will be approved.

Mr. Schwab, chairman of the corporation, declared that control of Bethlehem Steel never would pass out of his hands and the hands of his associates. Voting power will be withheld from the new stock to be issued.

The declaration of the bonus, Mr. Schwab explained, was made possible by the corporation's immense earnings in 1916, which amounted to \$61,717,329 compared with \$23,782,781 in 1915.

COAL CRISIS IN SWITZERLAND

BERNE, Jan. 24.—The coal crisis, arising from the decision of Germany to abrogate the convention in regard to the imports, is increasing in gravity daily in Switzerland. The political department has decided to take a census of all stocks of fuel and any concealment will be punished by imprisonment and a fine of 20,000 francs.

The federal council has authorized the gas plants to fix the amount of gas each consumer may burn daily and the iron and steel trade will henceforth be under the supervision of the political department.

A Berne dispatch under date of January 21 said that considerable excitement had been caused throughout Switzerland by a German measure prohibiting all importations. The dispatch said that the Swiss government would protest to Berlin, as the entire economic situation of the country was affected.

MRS. BYRNE GOES ON HUNGER STRIKE

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—If Mrs. Ethel Byrne, who is serving a sentence of thirty days in the penitentiary for disseminating information on birth control, persists in her refusal to eat, the New York penal authorities will have to deal with their first real hunger strike. Mrs. Byrne says she has eaten nothing since Monday morning.

The prisoner is a sister of Mrs. Margaret Sawyer, who is known throughout the country for her advocacy of birth control.

ALASKAN SALMON PACK \$23,800,000

SEATTLE, Jan. 24.—Canners operating in Alaska and Puget Sound waters estimate the total salmon pack for the season of 1916 at 4,817,000 cases for Alaska and 710,000 for Puget Sound. The Alaska pack was valued at \$23,800,000, the Puget Sound pack at \$2,700,000.

BETHLEHEM STEEL MELON JUICIEST OF ANY EVER CUT

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PRESIDENT'S VIEWS CANNOT PREVAIL UNTIL VICTORY

PARIS, Jan. 24.—The newspapers continue to comment on President Wilson's speech, but there is no change in their views, which all resemble each other, regardless of the political color of the organs. The Figaro says:

"For the last two centuries the Germany of the Hohenzollerns has infected the world like a pirate on the ocean. The independence of the world and the liberty of the seas can only be conquered by arms. Peace without victory would be a victory of the powers of evil, of those who embark in a war not only against men, but against the principles of morality and justice that are no less dear to us than President Wilson."

Stephen Pichon, writing in the Petit Journal, says: "President Wilson's views are worthy of all our sympathy, insofar as they are elevated, humane and just to us. They are equivalent to a condemnation of the enemy, against whom we are defending them with indomitable energy. But in order that they prevail it is necessary that we be victorious and that the crimes which have caused us so many deaths and so much destruction shall be punished in an exemplary fashion."

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CHIEF NATIONAL BANK EXAMINER STARCK REMOVED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Removal of Charles Starck from office as chief national bank examiner for the second federal reserve district with headquarters at New York, and the appointment to his place of William P. Malburn, assistant secretary of the treasury, was announced today by Comptroller Williams.

Mr. Starck has been absent on leave without pay since November 15. Charles P. Richmond, chief of the reports division of the comptroller's office, has been acting chief examiner since October 15.

The reasons for removing Mr. Starck were not made public in the comptroller's statement, which follows:

"William P. Malburn, assistant secretary of the treasury, has today resigned that office and accepted the office of chief national bank examiner for the second federal reserve district with headquarters at New York City, vice Charles Starck, removed."

"Mr. Malburn is by training and experience peculiarly well qualified for this important office. Before he became assistant secretary of the treasury in March, 1914, Mr. Malburn was engaged in the active and successful practice of law in Denver for over ten years. Prior thereto he had for thirteen years practical ex-

perience in the operation of national banks in Colorado, principally in the city of Denver.

"As assistant secretary of the treasury, Mr. Malburn has had general supervision of the fiscal bureaus of the treasury department, including the office of the comptroller."

The examiner's office pays \$15,000 a year. As assistant secretary of the treasury Mr. Malburn got \$5,000.

There has been No Increase In the price of Grape-Nuts Nor Any Decrease In the Size of Package Or Quality Of the Food.

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Drs. Mac Pherson, Williams and Blew

Grand Ave., at E. Alder St. Portland, Oregon.

Medford, Oregon, Jan. 18, 1917

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that I, the undersigned, had very severe stomach trouble and had been bothered for several years and last August was not expected to live, and hearing of Glim Chung (whose Herb Store is at 241 South Front street in Medford) I decided to get herbs for my stomach trouble, and I started to feeling better as soon as I used them, and today am a well man and can heartily recommend anyone afflicted as I was to see Glim Chung and try his Herbs.

(Signed) W. R. JOHNSON,

Witnesses:

M. A. Anderson, Medford.
S. B. Holmes, Eagle Point.
Frank Lewis, Eagle Point.
Wm. Lewis, Eagle Point.
W. L. Childreth, Eagle Point.
C. E. Moore, Eagle Point.
J. V. McIntyre, Eagle Point.
Geo. B. Von der Hellen, Eagle Point.
Thos. E. Nichols, Eagle Point.
John S. Orth, Medford.

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They're both hats-on-heads.
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The finest selected leaf from Kentucky's richest Burley fields is only the beginning of VELVET. Then a full two years' ageing in wooden hogsheads—a matter of large storage and investment expense. Then a careful manufacturing method employing the widest experience of life-long tobacco men.

What goes into the tin governs the pipe satisfaction that comes out of it. And we believe you will prefer VELVET to any other pipe tobacco at any price.

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10c Tins
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