

Vernonia Eagle

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First Half of Taxes Are Due

County Taxes Are Higher Than Last Year

Valuation Is Increased

Vernonia Has The Highest Special City Tax In The County

The sum of \$1,046,134.25 is now due towards the tax of Columbia county, beginning Monday, March 7. The levy is slightly higher than that of last year.

The first half of the tax must be paid before May 5, and interest will be charged after that date. Taxpayers must pay their amount in full since it simplifies the book-keeping and reduces the expense of collections.

The total amount of taxes has been raised over last year by about \$9000. The general fund has been increased from 13.2 mills to 13.8 mills for 1927. The general road fund has been raised slightly from 3 mills to 3.5 mills.

Six districts have a special road tax which will net a total of \$119,166.50. District No. 5, 7 mills; No. 6, 10 mills; No. 7, 10 mills; No. 8, 10 mills; No. 9, 10 mills; No. 16, 6 mills. During 1926 nine districts raised \$147,922.62 by special tax.

Vernonia has the highest special city tax of 34.9 mills. Columbia City comes next with 25 mills.

The four union high schools will raise less money this year. The totals being \$91,370.25 for 1927 against \$104,024.68 for 1926.

Seven drainage districts levy taxes on the acreage within their districts. The fire patrol tax levy is .12 mill against .105 mill for 1926.

The total assessed valuation for Columbia county is \$21,428,645, which is an increase of almost one million dollars over last year. The valuation of Vernonia is \$430,700, an increase of \$4,735 over last year.

The county assessor, W. S. Roberts, has turned the rolls over to the sheriff for collection.

Mrs. Sarah Spencer entertained the Woman's Missionary society with a basket dinner at her home Wednesday of last week. Thirteen visitors and 27 members enjoyed the social hour and good eats. The society will meet April 6 in the social hall of the church. All members and friends are invited to come and bring their baskets for a "Pot Luck" supper.

The Missionary society of the Evangelical church held an all-day meeting Wednesday of last week at the home of Mrs. David Spencer. At noon about 40 ladies sat down to a bountiful repast, after which the business meeting was held followed by an interesting program.

A pair of carrier pigeons were let loose in front of Miller's store Thursday and all school children were asked to guess how long they would be in flying back to their home on the Sperry flour mills tower in Portland.

A collision between a motorcycle driven by W. Parker and a Buick coach driven by C. D. Thomas of the Thomas garage occurred Friday evening at the entrance of the O.-A. hill. Both vehicles were slightly damaged.

Monday, March 7, was "Daddy's night" at the P.-T. meeting and the program was in charge of E. S. Thompson, who secured C. Merton, treasurer of the Miller Mercantile company store, who gave an address on his European trip. A packed auditorium listened with great appreciation. He displayed the flags of the various nations, also souvenirs and pictures of the most noted places. The picture of Mount Vesuvius in eruption and bits of lava rock were the center of interest.

Miss Mildred Bell of Vernonia has had her name placed on the freshman scholarship cup at the University of Oregon for having the highest grades of the freshman class last year.

610 Cows in County Tested in February

A total of 610 cows were tested during the month of February according to the report of L. J. Bartholomy, the tester. Their average production was 707 pounds of milk and 27.8 pounds of butterfat. Seventy cows produced more than 40 pounds of butterfat during the month. Seven cows were weeded out and sent to the butcher.

For pure bred herds under 11 cows, Jack Anliker of Goble was first with an average production of 1120 pounds of milk and 39.0 pounds of butterfat for his five registered Holsteins. Rudy Anliker of Goble was second with an average production of 1041 pounds of milk and 38.0 pounds of fat for his three registered Holsteins. Fritz Anliker of Goble was third with an average production of 1133 pounds of milk and 36.1 pounds of butterfat for his four registered Holsteins.

For the grade herds under 11 cows, Bill Widmer of St. Johns was first with an average production of 658 pounds of milk and 27.7 pounds of fat for his five grade Holsteins. E. J. Brooks of Cornelius was second with an average production of 533 pounds of milk and 27.2 pounds of fat for his seven grade Jerseys. B. S. Golden of Goble was third with an average production of 542 pounds of milk and 25 pounds of fat for his three grade Jerseys.

For the pure bred herds of over 10 cows, Hammer Bros. of Deer Island were first with an average production of 1112 pounds of milk and 37.4 pounds of fat for their 20 registered Holsteins. Lyons & Dimmick of Sauvie Island were second with an average production of 1144 pounds of milk and 35.6 pounds of fat for their 25 registered Holsteins. Behrmann & Burbank of Cornelius were third with an average production of 632 pounds of milk and 32.7 pounds of fat for their 21 registered Jerseys.

For grade herds of more than 10 cows, Beeson Bros. of Clatskanie were first with an average production of 717 pounds of milk and 34.4 pounds of fat for their 27 grade Jerseys and grade Guernseys. Herman Lehenow of Cornelius was second with an average production of 651 pounds of milk and 34.35 pounds of fat for his 11 grade Jerseys. Fred Uhlman of Scappoose was third with an average production of 783 pounds of milk and 32.2 pounds of fat for his 19 grade Holsteins and grade Guernseys.

The high pure bred cow of the association for February is Sens, a registered Holstein, six years old, owned by Hammer Bros. at Deer Island. She gave 1952 pounds of milk and 60.5 pounds of fat during the month of February.

The high grade cow of the association is Bigun, a five-year-old grade Holstein, owned by Beeson Bros. of Clatskanie. She gave 1509 pounds of milk and 78.5 pounds of fat during the month of February.

General Frank Aiken Visits F. McBarron

General Frank Aiken, commander in chief of the Irish Republic army, that for several years harassed the British army in Ireland was a visitor at the home of F. McBarron recently. General Aiken is Eamon De Valera's personal representative in America. He was accompanied on his visit by J. Creagan secretary of the Portland branch of the American Society for the Recognition of an Irish Republic.

At the council meeting Monday night many complaints were heard which took up much of the evening's time. Bills were passed on and a disagreement with the marshal over his duties straightened out satisfactorily. Bids for the improvement bonds will be opened Monday. Wm. Pringle asked permission to build a small building next to the White Lunch. It was referred to the fire and water committee for action. E. S. Thompson was appointed on the park board to succeed Wm. Pringle, resigned.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Warner sold the Horseshoe restaurant to Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Burns, formerly of Enid, Okla., the first of the week. Mr. Warner says they are undecided as to their future location.

Local 40 et 8 Voiture Stages Large "Wreck" Here On Saturday

Vernonia Voiture 907, La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux, initiated 13 candidates at their first "wreck" of the year here Saturday night. Part of the fun was staged on the main business street and in a local dance hall for the benefit of the public.

Visitors from out of town who were present for the initiation were G. W. Wells, George Consky, Melvin Wilson, Shirley Kirtland, Sheridan; Matt Matheny, Geo. Parker, Loren P. Davis, Jake Hammel, Albany; Neil Morfitt, R. H. Hoskins, Dick Smith, Mike Cosovick and L. Wadsworth of Astoria.

THE HIGH SCHOOL AFFAIRS

There is a great deal of sickness among the high school pupils at this time. Some are out on account of mumps and others suffering from an attack of the flu.

The sophomore play is meeting with its share of reverses. From two to four of the characters in the play have been absent each day during the past two weeks. This play will probably be postponed until after the senior play is given.

These are busy days for the senior class. Their play, the annual, the commencement program, and their daily recitations make up a full program for the remainder of the school year.

Referring to the seniors, one faculty member has made the statement that this year's class ranks very high intellectually. The seniors, of course, are quite ready to agree with such a statement. Indeed, the members of the class have thought that this was true for some time.

The civics class has just about completed their text book. The work in this subject will be supplemented by reports made by the class on outside problems connected with community life. Two weeks will also be given to the study of etiquette.

C. Merton, treasurer of the Miller Mercantile company, made a very interesting talk Monday evening in the high school auditorium on his tour of Europe. Mr. Merton was the speaker at a meeting of the Parent-Teacher association. It is regrettable that the entire high school student body could not have heard his talk, since it was truly an educational one.

The next social occasion in the high school will probably be the annual banquet for the boys and girls who have participated in basketball during the season just ended. The school board and their families will no doubt be honor guests as they were last year. This is the one really formal function of the school year.

April 8 is visitors day at the Washington school. The teachers have prepared a special program and exhibit of the pupils' work.

W. O. W. Receive Praise For High Membership

One of the most progressive of our local orders is Vernonia Camp 655, Woodmen of the World. Having its beginning in January of this year with but 16 members, the local lodge now boasts a membership of 72, and was given honorable mention in the Pacific Woodman as being the highest in point of new members in the month of February in the state of Oregon.

Many interesting entertainments are being planned for the near future. A ladies auxiliary, namely "Women of Woodcraft" is in the process of organization, and will soon be a reality. This camp meets at the grange hall every Monday evening at 7:30 and every meeting is enlivened by something new and entertaining. There is no horse play permitted at initiations. The candidates enjoying the work of the degree team as well as the older members.—Contributed.

The Birkenfeld second basketball team played Vernonia's second team Friday night, losing 11 to 27. The Vernonia first team won from the Birkenfeld first team 53 to 0.

J. Roswurm was injured by a fall at the O.-A. mill Wednesday. It is not definitely known how badly he is hurt.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Cameron and Mr. and Mrs. J. Kell of Hood River spent Saturday and Sunday with their brother S. Cameron.

March Sees More Employment In The Pacific Northwest

Portland, March 7.—Compared with last month at this time employment in general throughout the Pacific northwest has shown a substantial increase, although employment levels in various industries are not so high as they were in March 1926, according to the 4L employment letter published here. The letter points out that there were fewer night shifts at work in either fir or pine sawmills than was the case one year ago. Reports to the 4L office from some of the more important employment centers of the northwest were as follows:

Portland—Fewer unemployed here than in February. Reopening of several logging camps has helped the situation. Lumber production normal.

Raymond—South Bend, Wn.—More resident labor now unemployed than has been the case at any time in three years. Logging about 60 per cent active. Sawmill industry also on a slow bell.

Aberdeen-Hoquiam, Wash.—Logging about 70 per cent active. Several shingle mills and cedar camps down on account of shingle weavers strike. Clamming season in full swing with hundreds employed on the beaches and in factories.

Tacoma—More men than jobs here. All but one sawmill operating. Major logging camps busy. Labor turnover light.

Seattle—Logging in this district 85 per cent capacity. Railroads putting some extra gangs to work. Number of unemployed has decreased in the past month.

Spokane—Pine sawmill activity in the inland empire gradually increasing. Woods work is at season's peak. Log driving will be earlier than usual. Unemployment here fewer than in February.

Klamath Falls, Or.—Most of the major sawmills here are still down. Few camps running. Large surplus of both skilled and unskilled help in this district.

Vernonia To Have \$100,000 Building

Construction of a \$100,000 business building here was announced recently by the Acord Real Estate and Mortgage company, a newly incorporated concern. The building will be designed by Carl B. Cash, Portland architect. It will be 100 by 150 feet and located next to the Bridge on the north side of Bridge street. It will be two stories in height. The structure will be of concrete and brick construction.

Serious Damage Is Done By Bean and Pea Weevil

The bean and pea weevil is the most serious stored food product pest Oregon farmers have to deal with, informs on C. Mote, entomologist of the experiment station. It causes an annual loss of millions of dollars. Bean and pea crops are fumigated with carbon bisulfide to control this insect.

Beans and peas are first attacked by the weevil in spring when pods are forming. The female weevil flies about the plant and lays whitish eggs, either on the outside or within the developing pods. White grubs hatch from the eggs and burrow into the tender young peas and beans, where they remain until the seeds reach maturity. The hole formed heals over and is not seen. In this cavity the grub becomes full grown, pupates, and changes to adult. Thus many seeds that appear in excellent condition really have weevil grubs hidden inside them.

Time to fumigate is before putting the bean and pea crop into permanent storage. Infested material is placed in a gas-proof container and treated with carbon bisulfide. This is poured into shallow trays and placed on top of the seed. The container is tightly covered and the gas allowed to act 24 to 36 hours. Two tablespoonfuls of carbon bisulfide solution is the proper amount for a 5-gallon container. The gas from the liquid is heavier than air and settles in all parts of the fumigator. Extreme care is necessary in keeping away all flame and sparks as the chemical is highly explosive.

Florida's Finances Are In Good Shape

(By A. D. Moe)
Miami, Fla., Feb. 16, 1927.

We are getting settled here and beginning to know the way around town. While we think of the folks at home in the rain, or snow, or perhaps keeping the fires going at night in the event of a cold snap, we are sitting in our screen porch, dressed in the lightest summer clothes, looking out across green lawns, and listening to the singing of the birds. A few flowers are beginning to bloom, and the trees left standing after the hurricane, or those which have been pushed back up and held upright with stakes, are putting out new leaves. In a year's time they will have fully recovered, and the new trees planted will have made a good start. In the back yards are gardens with tomatoes, squash and beans getting ripe, with lettuce, onions and all sorts of green stuff. We have already forgotten about winter. It is July and August weather here now. Yesterday and today we have had showers, with one heavy down-pour and a distant rumbling of thunder, but the sun comes out again in a few minutes, and it is over, yet it cools the atmosphere somewhat.

All of the summer vegetables that we get at home are in the market fresh from the winter gardens. Ripe tomatoes are especially fine. Very good looking strawberries are on sale, selling from 60 cents to \$1 a hallock. They are raised only in a few localities and cannot supply the demand. Pineapples from Cuba sell at 25 cents to 35 cents each. Those raised in Florida are quite small.

Inquiries disclose the fact that the normal number of winter tourists are here. The hotels are well filled, as well as apartment houses, yet many signs are displayed all over the city for rooms for rent. Accommodations have been doubled since last year, I am informed, which accounts for many vacancies. There is an absence of the speculators and boomers this winter, however. The bubble has burst, and the "binder boys" have sought other occupations. Many evidences of collapsed real estate projects can be seen in the edges of many towns we passed through in our drive over the state, some out in the wide expanses of undeveloped country. Yet all the way down the coast from Palm Beach to Miami the many towns and beach resorts every few miles along the highway appear to be alive and full of business.

Conditions in Florida are much better than I expected to find them. I have had many surprises and some disappointments. There are some things I don't like, yet there is a lure about real summer weather, even if it is a little too hot for comfort, during the months when we have winter at home, that makes a vacation here worth while. I am disappointed in the absence of fine shrubbery and ornamental trees, but am told the hurricane is largely to blame.

When we made up our minds to come here, many friends were astonished that we would care to risk our lives or comfort in a place where storms might come at any time and lay the country in ruins; where alligators filled the rivers and swamps, poisonous snakes made it dangerous to stray from well beaten paths, and even the bathing beaches were not safe on account of sharks, stingeries and sand snakes. Yet we have seen none. Old residents here say they are hard to find, although admitting they can be found in remote places. Mosquitoes are not bad, as all sections of the state systematically off swamps and pools of standing water.

While it is not my intention to boost Florida as a winter paradise (we have seen places we like better), yet I want to tell the truth about the country as I see it. It is my opinion that the state will continue to grow in a substantial way, with the speculation and gambling in real estate eliminated. So long as northern people who can spare the time can get to a summer climate in 24 to 36 hours, they are going to do so. The millionaire can find the accommodations that he wants, and the middle class can also be accommodated according to their means. Good roads now being built all over the country make it easy for the motorist. Please turn to page 2.

Farm Outlook Is Encouraging

Oregon Has Good Prospects Of Better Crops

Weather Conditions Good

The Number of Horses in Oregon Is Steadily Decreasing.

For the United States as a whole, agriculture enters the new season with as good an outlook at least as last year, although the situation is somewhat different. Generally speaking, the prospects for livestock and livestock products is better than for cash crops or feed crops grown for market. The situation with respect to individual commodities varies, as was recently brought out in the agricultural outlook report.

Owing to favorable climatic conditions during the winter, conditions appear unusually favorable on the Pacific coast from the standpoint of production. The situation in general appears somewhat better if anything, than that for the country as a whole.

In Oregon there is prospect of better crops throughout the state than average, owing to a favorable winter temperature and abundant precipitation. The interest in dairy cattle and poultry which characterized reports throughout 1926 is still maintained. There is some sentiment for an expansion of potato acreage, which can scarcely be justified in view of the demands of the markets and growers intentions to increase potato production throughout the country by 12 per cent.

Weather conditions have been good in Columbia county for the wintering over of most of the crops and horticultural plants; no losses have been reported as yet. There is considerable planting of strawberries contemplated for this spring. The potato crop is being moved out slowly, the price ranging from \$1.50 to \$2 per sack. There is a small supply of clover seed being offered for sale in the county.

Livestock seems to be coming through the winter in good shape. Some of the beef cattle have already been turned out on the ranges. Dairy prices are fair and dairy cows are in demand and commanding a very good price. There seems to be an ample supply of feed in most sections of the country, although there are some importations of hay.

Total meats in storage, both frozen and cured, on February 1 in the United States amounted to 749,441,000 pounds compared to 696,102,000 pounds a year earlier and 840,879,000 the five year average, poultry not included. Stocks of frozen meats, beef, pork and mutton, are somewhat larger than last year. Stocks of cured pork are materially lower.

Stocks of wool in and afloat to the United States on December 31 amounted to \$24,577,677 pounds, or approximately \$0 million pounds less than three months earlier. The trend during recent weeks has been in the direction of firmer wool prices, both in the United States and abroad. Trading in mohair has been only moderate, although there is a little inquiry and some low bids being made.

Contracting of new clip wool is reported in several western states. Bids of 28 cents for coarse wool and 30 cents for medium wool are reported in western Oregon, and in eastern Oregon the same prices are reported to have been offered for fine wools, but no definite reports of clips contracted have been received.

According to the figures released by the United States crop reporting board on February 1, there has been a steady decrease in the number of horses in Oregon amounting to about 13,000 head the last year and 11,000 head from 1925 to 1926. The mule population has increased slightly. All cattle have decreased in numbers by 59,000 head in two years, of Please turn to page 6.