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THE TAX RATE IS TO BE LOWER THIS YEAR IN THE STATE

INCREASE OF \$15,000,000 PREDICTED IN NEW MEXICO VALUATION; COMMISSION NOW IN SESSION AT CAPITAL

The state tax commission which convened here Monday is still in session considering requests for adjustments of taxes from all quarters. It is evident from the returns of half a dozen counties which have now sent to their rolls for 1918, that taxable property will exceed last year's total valuation by \$15,000,000 or over with corresponding reduction in the state tax rate.

NEW SHELL LOADING PLANT WILL HANDLE 52,000 SHELLS A DAY

Quantity if not capacity shipments will start soon from a new government shell loading factory, in New Jersey.

MURDERERS WILL HANG SAYS THE SUPREME COURT

BLANCETT GOES TO GIBBET AUGUST 15, A. B. SMITH AND PABLO YBARRA ALSO TO LOSE NECKS WITHIN NEXT THIRTY DAYS

Three convictions for murder were upheld by the state supreme court this week, each by unanimous concurrence. What is considered to be about the last chapter written in the life history of Albert W. Blancett is contained in a lengthy syllabus, throwing out every contention of his lawyer, A. B. Rencan on Blancett's appeal from the district court embracing Santa Fe county, where Blancett was accused, tried and convicted of the murder of Clyde D. Armour and the later impersonation of his victim.

COMING STATE EVENTS

- August 4 - Santo Domingo Pueblo Indian Corn Dance
August 7-11 - Magdalena First Frontier Day Celebration
September 30 - Taos San Geronimo Festival
November - Albuquerque New Mexico Educational Association

MILLION HAVE GONE OVER WITH HELP OF ALLIES

(New York Tribune) Nevertheless we are constrained to say that we are all more in danger of overpraising our part than of failing to appreciate it. We are in danger, besides, of claiming too much. We shall try to speak our reservations gently.

THREE OPINIONS ARE GIVEN OUT BY H. L. PATTON

STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL RULES ON SACRAMENTAL WINES, POSTING OF FISH STREAMS AND VALIDITY OF ROAD TAX

Among opinions by the attorney general this week, is an expression as to the use of wine for sacramental purposes after state prohibition goes into effect. Mr. Patton upholds the general understanding the wine for sacramental purposes will not be interfered with. The opinion was called for because it appears that a similar clause in the Arizona and Oklahoma laws had led to litigation.

MAGDALENA NEWS RETURNS HEARST CHECK OFFERED FOR HIS ADVERTISEMENTS

The News received this week a check covering a copy of an advertisement for the Hearst publications and the same was returned. The Hearst publications have been declared pro-German by the Council of Defense of America, and if after an impartial investigation they can make a charge the News wants none of their advertising, no matter the price paid. We need the money, but there is not money enough in this old universe to get German propaganda in our columns.—Magdalena News.

STATE ENGINEER ACTS FOR HIGH-WAY COMMISSION

VOTE OF STATE HIGHWAY BODY GIVES TO JAMES A. FRENCH A FURTHER WIDE AUTHORITY, SATURDAY OF LAST WEEK

The state highway commission in session here until Saturday of last week voted the right to James A. French, state engineer to sign all federal aid projects in behalf of the commission and to advertise on bids for the federal aid road work. Should the bids not seem satisfactory to him, he is authorized to proceed with construction at state expense.

STATE LAND SALES ANNOUNCED FOR EIGHT MORE OF THE COUNTIES

The official publication of notices of state land sales in eight counties appears on another page of the State Record this week. They are as follows: Otero County—Oct. 22; 7880 acres at not less than \$3 per acre; improvements, \$750; timber \$13,132. Santa Fe County—Sept. 30; 1363 acres at not less than \$3; improvements about \$824. Torrance County—Oct. 23; 7300 acres at not less than \$3; improvements about \$3685. Lincoln County—Oct. 21; 2720 acres at not less than \$3; unimproved. Curry County—Sept. 30; 1920 acres at not less than \$10; improvements about \$10,830. Grant County—Oct. 18; about 21,000 acres at not less than \$3; 610 at not less than \$10; some tracts unimproved and others with very valuable improvements.

NATION'S YOUNGEST SOLDIER DEAD; WAS SEVERELY WOUNDED IN FRANCE

Waterloo (Iowa) July 4.—A special dispatch to the Evening Courier states that advices received by relatives at Greene, Iowa, report the death of Claude Tack at a hospital in New Jersey.

SILVER SERVICE GIFT OF NEW MEXICO TO SHIP

Vice Admiral Coffman, now in command of the battleship New Mexico extended the courtesy of a trip to the navy yards and inspection of the man of war to Benjamin M. Read, and another member of the commission for presenting a silver service. There are 1260 men in the ship's force now. The New Mexico will be ready to be taken over by the navy on August 15.

WOMAN'S COUNCIL HOLDS MEETING IN GRANT COUNTY

The regular monthly meeting of the Grant County Woman's Council of Defense was held at their rooms last Tuesday afternoon. Reports were made by the Precinct chairmen of the activities in their respective precincts and plans were discussed for conserving the surplus fruit and vegetables throughout the county.

BISHOP'S RANCH WILL BE REMODELLED AS A RESORT

The historic Bishop's ranch in the picturesque Tesuque valley near Santa Fe has been taken over by Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Pfeiffer, who also conduct the Ramon Vigil ranch house as a tourist resort, and will be remodelled in accordance with plans for a lodge originally laid down by Bishop Lamy.

EDUARDO OTERO IS SAID NOT TO WANT GOVERNOR

Reports started in the capital Friday to the effect that Ed. Otero, prominently mentioned as the next Republican candidate for governor does not want to run for the job. Thomas Hughes, also mentioned, has not announced his position. State Senator Benjamin Z. Pankley has been mentioned from dozens of sources as the most likely man for the job, following the suggestion in the State Record in May, and at the present time seems to be the most probable nominee.

SISTER OF LIEUT. HOSKINS IS RESIDENT OF SANTA FE

Helen Hoskins Rapp of this city is a sister of Lieutenant Leonard T. Hoskins, son of D. T. Hoskins of Las Vegas, who died fighting in the Vosges mountains in June 28, at the age of 22 years. Hoskins had been serving in France since August last as second lieutenant of artillery. New Mexico mourned his loss, and among tributes to his memory was an eloquent address by Charles A. Spiess in Las Vegas.

ROUAULT EXPECTS TO GO INTO THE ARMY AT ONCE

Theodor Rouault, state game and fish warden, expects to enter the officers training camp at Camp Pike, Arkansas at an early date, leaving the conduct of his office to James O'Leary chief deputy and Miss Evelyn Blackshire chief clerk. Mr. Rouault is a graduate of the New Mexico military institute at Roswell and is of French parentage.

DECISION ON THE BOUNDARY ACCEPTS THE SURVEY OF 1868

That the commissioner of the general land office has "accepted the survey of 1868" is the information contained in a letter relative to the New Mexico-Colorado boundary dispute, now under review, received by the governor Monday.

NEW MEXICO-COLORADO DISPUTE GETS RULING FROM FEDERAL COMMISSIONER; ITS MEANING IN DOUBT HERE

The Carpenter survey made under Colorado supervision and other surveys appear to be thrown out, and the Darling survey is upheld. A duplicate of the city hall will be built according to Charles M. Kenney contractor who supervised the moving of the two story brick structure to its present location opposite the De Vargas Hotel. A twin structure will be erected beside it, and all city offices installed.

SANTA FE TO HAVE FINE UP TO DATE CITY HALL

The city hall bonds issued by Mayor Sargent in the amount of \$10,000. Levels have been run for the new sewer which will run on Matry street and connect with the main sewer on Washington avenue.

THE SENATORSHIP

Disinterested persons watching the senatorial situation in the United States must conclude that now as never before in the history of this nation we need strong men in that body, and of all the real strong men of the present membership the senior senator from New Mexico is proving himself to be one of the greatest value not only to the state, but to the nation.

IMMENSE WOOL SHIPMENT

The 1918 wool crop for Socorro county has been estimated at 10,000,000 pounds and is expected to be distributed to the different localities as the U. S. government sees fit. The wool which passed through the different consignees at Magdalena amounts to over 1,100,000 pounds and these last consisted of the opinion that there will be somewhere between 50,000 and 100,000 pounds not to ship. This big shipment passes Magdalena, as it has for the past few years, at the head of the list of wool shipments, and while not as heavy as last year, it is still an extraordinary showing for one shipping point.

WARDS AT FORT BAYARD ARE ALREADY OCCUPIED

Two of the new wards recently completed at Fort Bayard are already being occupied by sick soldiers and the arrivals are such that all speed is being used to complete the other buildings now in course of construction. New patients are arriving every day including men who have been seized with tuberculosis while at the training camp.—Silver City Enterprise.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SON WILL TRAIN FOR OFFICER

Phillips L. Patton, son of attorney general Harry L. Patton, was named as one of four former students by Dr. David R. Boyd, president of the University of New Mexico to receive training at the Presidio in San Francisco, California, with a view to appointment as a United States army officer.

CLOVIS HAS FURNISHED ALREADY 19 TRAINMEN

An honor service for the switchmen and brakemen who have come to war from Clovis was held at the Santa Fe yards Sunday afternoon at 5:00 o'clock. Nineteen switchmen and brakemen have gone from Clovis to the front to do their part in the great battle for the freedom of the world.

ROY HAS MADE GOOD ON W. S. S. QUOTA

In spite of drought and the excessive financial drains of all the other war activities, Roy went "Over the Top" with her quota of W. S. S. in the big drive last Friday, just as she has on all other occasions. Her quota was \$20,000.00 and the subscriptions totaled up \$23,630.00.

TEN COMMANDMENTS TO PROTECT OUR SOLDIERS

(Illinois Council Bulletin) An Ohio draft board has put the legal rights of soldiers into a decalogue (mostly of don'ts), which is called "Uncle Sam's Ten Commandments." The "commandments" read: I. Thou shalt not evict for non-payment of rent, a soldier's dependents, under penalty of \$100.00 fine.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH NEEDED IN THIS STATE

John Tombs, active in the advocacy of a public health department for New Mexico has received encouragement of late in the form of letters from various parts of the state, including one this week from a social worker from the east, a woman who deems New Mexico sadly in need of such a body. There is but one county visiting nurse in the state, and her work has revealed the need of such a department.

EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO HAVE NEXT LEGISLATURE SET ASIDE FUNDS FOR CARE OF SICK AND SANITARY MEASURES

The New Mexico public health association has no legislative power. Every other state in the union has its health department agitators in the movement to have, and it is expected that a strong effort will again be made in the past to have the next legislature take the needed action if it is only a beginning. A working health department would cost less than the maintenance of activities that should fall within its jurisdiction now carried on by jails, hospitals, and private institutions.

FEARLESS AND ENERGETIC

The recent announcement in the papers of the state that Judge A. B. Fall will be a candidate for re-nomination and election is the most welcome piece of news the people of New Mexico have read in a long time.

NEW SECRETARY TAKES CHARGE

C. W. Harvey, secretary of the army, M. C. A. at Columbus, for several months, has gone to Deming on a short visit and from there he will go to his home in Des Moines, Iowa, where he will join his country's quota to serve Uncle Sam in another capacity. Prof. Polk C. Webb, of Fort Bliss, Texas, has taken charge of the M. C. A. He has had wide experience along this line of work and is highly recommended by the officers commanding the posts in which he has been employed as secretary.

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THE LATEST REPORT OF FIELD AGENT HARE SHOWS THE INCREASE IN CEREAL AND FEED CROPS TO BE ABOUT AS FOLLOWS:

Corn 6 per cent, spring wheat 23 per cent, winter wheat 25 per cent, oats 4 per cent, barley 10 per cent, hay 15 per cent.

NEW MEXICO

NEWS REVIEW

(Continued from page eight)

ed but in an incredibly short time the building was a mass of roaring flames.

Ernest E. Bennett was the heaviest loser in the fire, having lost four expensive cars, all his tools and equipment, a heavy stock of tires and casings and accessories of every kind. There are several individual loser besides. The Silver City Beer and Ice Company, who not only suffered the loss of the building but had three trucks ruined and considerable damage was done to goods stored in the sheds adjoining the garage. The damage is estimated at \$250,000.00.

Miner Met Instant Death

Jose Rodriguez, a miner employed by the Black Hawk Mining and Milling Co. at the Black Hawk camp 10 miles west of Silver City, was overcome by gas and fell from the bucket in which he was being hoisted to the surface to instant death.

Heads Woman's Land Army

Mrs. R. H. M. Ferguson of Tyrone, has been named by Governor Lindsey as the head of the Woman's Land Army for the state of New Mexico. Mrs. Robert K. Bell, of Tyrone, has been selected to head the Grant county branch of the organization.—Silver City Enterprise.

Wins \$25.00 Prize

Oliver Westlake, son of Dr. and Mrs. O. J. Westlake, of Silver City was the fortunate winner of the \$25 prize offered by the Union Exchange Bank for the boy or girl that would earn the largest number of Thrift Stamps.

LEA

Sure Hard Luck

W. M. Snyder of Lovington lost two fine cows by the lightning route recently and the coyotes feasted on some of his calves. He succeeded in poisoning two of the depredatory animals.

Right Kind Of Citizen

W. C. Howard, of Lovington, who believes in the bright future of the little metropolis of Lea county purchased the building owned by J. H. Whitley and will open up an office on his immediate return from Texas where he went to look after some personal business.

LINCOLN

Expansion at Fort Stanton

Dr. McKeon, in command at Fort Stanton, returned last week from his

trip east, and while gone visited Washington and conferred with the Government officials in regard to future plans at the Fort. He reports that it is intended to send at least 1000 discharged soldiers to Fort Stanton to be treated for lung trouble, and preparations will be made for their accommodation. It is presumed that extensive barracks or other buildings will soon be erected.—Captain Mountaineer.

Finely Equipped For Service

The new contractors took charge of the Roswell and Carrizozo mail line last Monday. The new contractors have named their line "The White Line Stage and Mail Line." They are finely equipped for the service.—Captain Mountaineer.

LUNA

Another Disastrous Fire

Last Thursday morning was the scene of another disastrous fire when the Cody Theatre, the Mackleton Block, located centrally in the city and the garage of Sam Watson where a fire cigarette dropped on the oil soaked floor of the garage caused a loss of about \$100,000 and wiped out two business blocks.

Specialists Making Examinations

A party composed of Major Chas. A. Kofoid, commanding, formerly professor of science in the University of California, Captain Sergeant of Oklahoma City, Lieutenant Yocum, Sergeant McCollum, Sergeant Story and Privates First Class Steele Clark, Merde and Janse, were in Columbus last week for the purpose of examining the soldiers from the southern states for hook worm.

They are making all the military camps along the border and are examining all the soldiers from the fifteen southern states. On an average of ten per cent of the soldiers from the south are afflicted with the disease.—Columbus Courier.

Oil Prospects Good

Work at the oil well was resumed last Monday morning. It is down to a depth of approximately 1850 feet, and the prospects are good.—Columbus Courier.

MORA

Harvest Ghastly Joke

Wheat harvest is on this week it is a ghastly joke but will yield seed for fall planting which is a lot better than shipping it in.—Roy Spanish-American.

Don't Know Just Where

Irvin Oaden Jr., has rented his farm to James Livingston, and taken his stock to his father-in-law, Rev. Howell to care for and has gone away to work, he don't know just where. It hasn't rained at all for him this summer but he will have 50 acres of wheat put in and try it again after next year.—Roy Spanish-American.

OTERO

Splendid Work of Institution

Closter's Baby Sanatorium is recommended by doctors all over the Southwest. The work of this institution is so quiet; the nurses care only for healthy babies as a reward, that it is only the individual mothers who know what a wonderful work is being done there.

This summer there has been an average of twelve to fifteen babies being cared for all the time. A charge is made for the care of babies, but money is no bar to the entrance of a sick child. This necessitates a fund for the maintenance of the institution. This fund is raised in various ways, one being the annual Masquerade Ball.—A Tenderfoot.

QUAY

Four autos of Oklahoma tourists stopped over in Glenns last week enroute to Las Vegas and California.

O. G. Reeder, of Tucumcari, has installed a battleship grey motor bearing, which will be a noticeable progressive feature over the obnoxious black that is most frequently seen in all communities.

Mr. Glison, of Center, bought 15 head of fine cattle from Mr. Read last week.

A splendid rain fell in this section last Sunday night, doing a million dollar's worth of good.—Glenns Tribune.

J. J. Jordan has returned to Tucumcari from the Kansas wheat belt, where he marketed a number of mules.

Lee H. Hamilton, of Tucumcari shipped a large herd of cattle to Springer, Colfax County.

M. H. Koch is completing one of the most attractive little homes in Tucumcari. It is the mission architecture.

Lee Pelzer and Co., automobile agents, sold two six cylinder Grant autos last week to Lee Hamilton and W. S. Shaublin of Tucumcari.

Nearly 100 Tucumcari men have signed the application to join the home guard organization.

I. W. W. Or German Agent Busy

T. W. Jennings returned from the Kansas harvest fields Thursday. He stated that a number of the threshing machines in that section were out of commission, due to some I. W. W. or other German agent, putting acid in the engines to eat out the flues.—San Jon Sentinel.

Shipping Chickens And Hides

Geo. Romh, manager of the Tucumcari Hide & Product Co. has shipped out nearly 20,000 pounds of chickens within the past few days. He has also shipped several thous-

and pounds of hides. Hens were bringing 19c and springs 33c on the market last week. From the way the chickens are coming in to market it would seem that chickens and eggs will be scarce in the near future.—Tucuman News.

Exterminating Prairie Dogs

G. F. Bateman who has been engaged in prairie dog extermination work here for the past three months for the Biological Survey, has gone to McKinley county to take up the work in that section of the state.—Tucuman American.

Roosevelt

Mosquitos Talk And Smoke

Frank Shaw came home this week from Southern Texas after a month's absence buying broom corn. Frank says that crops where he has been are fine, even the mosquitos reaching such a high state that they talk Spanish and smoke cigarettes.—Portales Journal.

Farm And Madam First

Moses B. Jones has severed his connection as cashier of the First National Bank of this place and will devote his time to looking after his irrigated farm and helping the madam put up the big fruit crop raised this year.—Portales Journal.

Speaks Well For Town

The county jail is vacant in so far as any prisoners are concerned, however, this is no unusual occurrence in this county.—Portales Journal.

Will Ship Cattle To Texas

G. T. Littlefield returned Wednesday from Littlefield Texas, he made arrangements for grass for several hundred head of cattle while there and expects to ship them to it next week.—Kenna Record.

T. A. Sacra shipped from Kenna over 1500 yearlings to Dalhart, Texas, last week where they will be pastured.

Accidently Shot

Lee Johnson, son of Burl Johnson was accidently shot in the left hand with a 22 rifle in the hands of Neal Banks while the boys were hunting rabbits last Sunday at a ranch nine miles west of town.—Portales News.

SAN JUAN

Deplorable Accident

White, returning from Aztec to Bloomfield where he worked, Edward Skrifvars was thrown from the horse he was riding and instantly killed. The young man had repeatedly tried to enlist in the army but was refused on account of his age, being only 16. His parents live on a ranch near Pueblo, Colorado.

Wholesalers Consolidate

The Simpson Mercantile Co., of Farmington this week closed a deal to consolidate their wholesale house with that of the C. H. Algert Co.

The business will be conducted under the firm name of the Simpson Mercantile Co., and the goods will all be moved into the Pierce building where the Algert Co., is now located.

June Foutz, owner of the Algert store, is retiring from active business because of poor health, and plans to spend some time on the coast in California.

Both R. T. F. Simpson and W. F. Hunter, owners of the Simpson Mercantile Co., are well known business men here and can ably conduct what will be one of the largest wholesale houses in the San Juan Basin.—Farmington Hustler.

Eat Too Many Dough Gods

Hal Thomas has been eating so many dough gods of his own manufacture that they gave him a pain. Hal went to the Ochsner hospital last week to be operated upon for appendicitis.—Aztec Independent.

Just Human Bones So Far

Excavation work at the Aztec ruins is progressing rapidly. Mr. Morris has a crew of about twenty men working. No notable finds have been made to date, though several tubs of human bones have been collected. The work of excavation is about one fourth completed.—Aztec Independent.

SOCORRO

Called To Rest

Mrs. M. C. Spicer, one of the most generous and dearly loved women of Socorro passed away last Wednesday afternoon at her home in that city. Although it was generally known that she had been in poor health for some time, it was not realized by her most intimate friends or even her family that her condition was such as to cause apprehension. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. B. W. Means the following afternoon at the family home, and the remains were laid to rest in the K. of P. lot in the Socorro cemetery.

Pedro Gavaldon, of the Mangus ranch country, was in Monday with over 10,000 pounds of wool, which was consigned to the U. S. government under the rules governing the distribution of all wool stocks this year.—Magdalena News.

Good rains are reported in most of the range country of western Socorro county and grass coming nicely. Stock conditions are also improving and the outlook for this portion of the state is improving rapidly.—Magdalena News.

Rounding Up Slackers

Officers from the Mogollon country brought in ten parties charged with being "slackers" last Thursday night. The men were taken to Socorro Friday morning by Marshal H. S. Hall, and will be sent on to El Paso for induction into the U. S. Army. The "slacker" receives short shift these days, and none sympathize with them.—Magdalena News.

TAOS

Summer Campers To Taos

Four auto loads, two of this city and two from Texas, left yesterday for the Taos country to spend three or four weeks camping along the trout streams of that county. They were, however, too modest to turn in their names at the Temple of Truth, so shall forever be nameless here.—Roswell News.

TORRANCE

C. Dean of Morarity shipped a car load of steers last week to Clinton, Oklahoma.

C. H. Connell, of Nara Visa bought 50 head of registered Hereford heifers from Gus Coats last week.

Beetles Working Seriously

Paul Bussle is spraying his beans to get rid of beetles which have appeared in his fields. These are the first of which we have heard on the mesa. It is said that beetles are working rather seriously some ten miles north of Mountainair.—Mountainair Independent.

Mad Dog Bites Children

Two children of John Davis, and T. L. Davis, living twenty miles east of here, and two Liggett children, relatives and visitors of the Davises, have gone to El Paso to take the Pasteur treatment for hydrophobia, having been bitten by dogs believed to have had that disease.—Estancia Herald.

UNION

Boosters Get Busy

Boosters met and decided to organize a commercial club in that city. Dr. H. R. Mills, D. D. was selected as chairman to do the necessary preliminary work in arranging the details for the proposed move and there is not any doubt but that it will be a live and up-to-the-minute organization.

Juan J. Duran has been appointed by the War Council of Defense to take charge of a drive in Union county for the Salvation Army. They are doing excellent work at the front similar to that of the Red Cross and Y. M. C. A.

Work commenced last week on an addition to the old school house at Mosquero, which is being rebuilt by the Catholics into a modern chapel.

"Outwitting The Hun"

Is the new serial story which will begin in the State Record August 2. It is a story of how Pat O'Brien, an American flier, by sheer grit and gameness accomplished one of the most remarkable feats of the war when he leaped from a German prison train and made his way through 250 miles of enemy territory to Holland and freedom. Don't fail to read it.