

### HERE'S SAD NEWS: QUARTERLY INCOME TAX DUE DECEMBER 15

Forty thousand taxpayers in Southern California have been notified by Collector Rex Goodcell that the fourth and final payment on their income tax will be due on December 15. Taxpayers who fail to meet this final installment will be classed as delinquent, and the unpaid balance of the tax will be subject to immediate demand upon which penalties and interest will apply.

Income tax receipts for the Los Angeles district from January 1 to December 1 reached the staggering total of \$42,215,840, compared with \$27,289,564 for the same period of 1922. Of 230,000 personal returns filed this year, approximately 40,000 elected

to pay their taxes on the installment plan. It is this brigade of 40,000 that must make the fourth and final payment by December 15.

Sweeping investigation of 15,000 so-called doubtful returns is now being made by the field force of Collector Goodcell's office, reinforced by special investigators sent here from Washington. This probe will extend into February, and thousands of dollars will be collected from increased assessments. Every return showing an apparent discrepancy will be probed. Collector Goodcell declared that experience proved that the faulty returns filed were due in the majority of cases to the taxpayer's misconception of the law, and that increased assessments were promptly paid when the taxpayers had been intelligently advised as to their legal tax liability.

The widespread drive of the field deputies will be devoted entirely to the verification of doubtful returns and to the checking of returns made by corporations of dividends paid to individuals, and of returns by corporations and partnerships showing salaries of \$1000 or more paid to individuals.

When those returns are checked the list of persons who filed income returns will be scrutinized to see if the dividends and salaries paid by corporations to individuals have been listed by the latter for taxation.

Transcripts will be made of all real estate transfers, and checks made to verify returns filed as to profit or loss on such transactions.

While Collector Goodcell is acting under direct instructions from Washington, which govern the drive now on, he has directed field deputies to make their investigations with a minimum of annoyance to the taxpayer.

"Where income tax remittances are made by mail, it is advisable to purchase a money order or draw a check

payable to Collector of Internal Revenue," said Collector Goodcell.

"Cash sent in is always at the owner's risk," he continued, "and if stolen, the taxpayer may find himself facing penalty for failure to pay his tax on time.

"Owing to the fact that there are hundreds of persons in this district with the same name and initials, it will greatly expedite the work of this office if taxpayers will write their first names in full, and set down their addresses plainly.

"Up to July 1 of this year \$500,000 in unidentified collections was carried on our books. These funds for the most part were in the shape of checks the signatures of which were illegible. It required a force of special federal auditors to run down and properly credit this immense sum. Taxpayers are urged to write their names plainly and to specify the taxes they are paying."

Collector Goodcell calls attention to the fact that the mailing of a bill to a taxpayer at his last given address constitutes legal notice, and not the delivery of the letter. He urges taxpayers to notify the internal revenue office of changes in address, as they are still liable to taxes and penalties even though they do not receive notice of their indebtedness.

Tourists who are visiting in Southern California should send remittances on their income tax to the office at which they filed their original returns.

Collector Goodcell pointed out that although Washington assesses the tax, the payment of it must be made to the collector of internal revenue in whose district the taxpayer resides. Payments should never be sent to Washington.

"Prompt payment of the final income tax installment will enable Los Angeles to maintain its standing as the champion collection district in the United States," said Collector Goodcell.

\$169,940, as against \$776,140 for October, 1922—a gain of \$408,800. The tax increase was 53 per cent.

Manufacturers of oleomargarine paid tax on 468,000 pounds of the butter substitute. The increase was 151 per cent.

The influx of visitors has increased not only the theatre attendance, which advanced 30 per cent, but the cabaret admission tax showed a gain of 200 per cent.

Increases in other lines were as follows:

Telephone and telegraph messages 14 per cent; sales tax as a whole 35.6 per cent; manufacturers' excise tax 40 per cent; soft drinks, 51 per cent; manufacturers' tax on yachts and pleasure boats, 1029 per cent; retail dealers' tax on sales of sculpture and painting, 207 per cent.

"The tax paid indicates that October, from the standpoint of increased business in Southern California, was the best month of the present year," declared Collector Goodcell.

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### TAXES REVEAL BUSINESS GOOD IN SOUTHLAND

October Fine Month in All Lines of Trade

That October was a banner month in the various manufacturing and retail lines in Southern California was indicated by federal taxes paid in November, which showed increased sales ranging from 25 to 207 per cent.

In a report to Washington yesterday by Collector of Internal Revenue Rex Goodcell the remarkable gain in virtually every line of commercial life in the ten counties centering around Los Angeles was vividly portrayed.

In the manufacturing line, automobile tires and accessories made in Southern California registered gains over October, 1922, of 54 per cent. The tax paid by the manufacturers represents sales of \$1,821,840 for October, 1923, as against \$1,248,580 for the same month of last year, an increase in sales by the manufacturers of \$573,260.

Manufacturers of candy made here paid tax on sales of \$747,366, compared with \$432,322 in October of last year, an increase of \$314,544, or 72 per cent.

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