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Taxable Value of L.A. County Is Up 17 Percent

The \$2,807,953,250 taxable value of property in Los Angeles county for 1944-45 is up 17 per cent from the \$2,485,965,560 assessed value of property in the county for 1940-41, California Taxpayers' Association stated today, making public its analysis of assessed valuations in California counties since the United States entered the war.

Property values in the county this year are as follows: Land, \$1,042,132,695; improvements on land, \$1,272,014,145; and personal property and money, \$680,472,205. Exemptions, which have been deducted from these valuations, total \$86,665,795.

Throughout the state, the total taxable value of property for 1944-45 is \$8,267,099,366, an increase of 16 per cent over the \$7,138,621,257 valuation for 1940-41, the association found. Valuations in the state are divided as

Shoe Finance Survey Undertaken

The nation's footwear manufacturers may conduct a financial survey of their own industry to obtain information needed for a possible revision of the present method of pricing.

William J. Joyce, president of Joyce, Inc., 55 N. Vernon ave., Pasadena, Calif., who attended a recent meeting of the 21-member OPA Shoe Manufacturer's Industry advisory committee, said today the committee had recommended that such a survey be undertaken, following sessions with agency officials and OPA shoe consultants in Washington.

follows: Land, \$3,254,573,595; improvements on land, \$3,568,251,096; personal property and money, \$1,652,063,149. Exemptions which have been granted throughout the state this year total \$205,788,474.

"In every community where taxable valuations are up, the amount each cent of property tax rate will raise is up accordingly," the Taxpayers' organization stated.

New Track Record Looms as Plans Go Forward for Hollywood Gold Cup

With a track termed one of the greatest in the nation by horsemen the possibility of a new track record in the Hollywood Gold Cup is very likely.

The recent redressing and new surfacing of the track has rendered the horsemen assurance of fast footing, regardless of weather conditions. Recent rains failed to bother the racing strip. After a six-day storm, including two days of almost continuous rainfall, the track remained "sloppy and fast," and the day after the rains ceased a trace of dust was visible to the spectators.

Officials, prominent trainers and horse owners, clockers, and the like, remarked that they had never seen a racing strip quite like the one Hollywood Park now boasts. General Manager Jack F. MacKenzie and his capable architect, Art Froehlich, spent long and arduous hours in making the track what it is and praise has been heaped high upon them for their collective efforts in reprocessing the racing strip.

Consequently, if the horses which are nominated for the 1944 edition of the Gold Cup are of the caliber of Challeon, holder of the Gold Cup record of 2:02 flat, that record may be shunted into the discards, for a run of 2:01 3/5 for the mile and one-quarter is a distinct possibility.

The fifth renewal of the Gold Cup for a purse of \$75,000 added to be run Dec. 16 is the latest the race has been run in all the history of the rich contest. Always before, Hollywood's racing dates were for the summer months, but wartime racing conditions made it necessary for the autumn racing this season.

The last running of the Gold Cup was the first time the purse was for the \$75,000-added money.

The race was first contested in 1938 and renewed annually until the war started and after the 1941 running of the Cup Hollywood Park was "dark" until this fall.

The Gold Cup was first won by the great Seabiscuit. He packed a load of 133 pounds that summer day in 1938 and had George Woolf in the frons and walked his beat, winning over Bert Barons' Specify with Major A. C. Taylor's Whicceee third.

In the 1939 running Charles S. Howard again won the coin, this time with Seabiscuit's stablemate, Kayak II. Kayak had 125 pounds up and the same Woolf, romping to a win with Cravat coming up in second place and Specify third.

The 1940 contest saw Woolf make it a triple in the Gold Cup, for he was aboard Challeon, the winner, for owner W. L. Brann. Specify was second, the third time he was in the money in the Gold Cup, and Can't Wait was in the show position.

Then in 1941, the last time the rich race was contested, Big Pebble, a five-year-old belonging to the Circle M. Ranch, after having the Widener Cup in



FLIGHT OFFICER... Richard Washer, son of I. Washer, proprietor of the Gay Shop, received his wings and appointment as flight officer of the AAF recently at Pampa, Tex., graduation exercises at the end of 17 months' intensive training during which time he qualified as a pilot, bombardier and navigator. Home on leave, Washer is leaving Dec. 4 for Enid Army Air Field, Okla., for further training as a B-25 bomber pilot. He also excelled in physical efficiency during his training.

New Beach Park Plan Is Made By Committee

Establishment of a vast state park, extending from San Pedro to Topanga Canyon and including Torrance beach and a shoreline strip along Santa Monica Bay, has been proposed in a master plan to develop the county coastline, sponsors reported today.

The plan, presented by several civic commissioners and organizations, would create the Los Angeles coastal state park, which would include 7,000 acres of Rolling Hills in the Palos Verdes peninsula. The proposal would provide improved recreational facilities, shoreline parkways and protection against beach pollution and erosion.

Florida took down top money. Jackie Westrope had the leg up. Paper Boy, one of the choices in this year's running, was a smashing second and Mioland finished third.

Challeon, the big Brann runner, came charging down the stretch, stepping the mile and one-quarter in 2:02 flat, for the fastest time of the race. The largest field was the 1941 group when 13 went to the post, while the smallest number was the 1939 field when seven answered the call. In 1940 an even dozen went and in the Inaugural there were ten thoroughbreds going to the post.

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