

ALL AROUND THE WORLD

LET THE BUYER BEWARE.

The City of Chicago is resorting to billboard advertisements to sell an issue of four per cent. bonds. The advertisement, signed by the Mayor and City Comptroller, states that these bonds are exempt from federal income tax. But the writer of the advertisement forgot to state that they are subject to the general property tax, and that this tax, if enforced, as the law requires, will leave little of the four per cent. income to investors. Considering that State's Attorney Hoyne has been using the power of his office to uncover and punish evasions of the personal property tax, it is only fair that intending purchasers be warned.

WHAT WOULD SHE DO IF SHE WAS A REAL MAYOR.

Los Angeles (Cal.), has recently had the opportunity, through the absence of the Mayor and Deputy, of seeing how a woman can handle the position. The Council elected Miss Estelle Lawton Lindsay an alderman to act pro tem.

Acting Mayor Lawton, in an interview, expressed herself as follows:—

"If I were the real Mayor of this city, and I could do what I wanted to do, I would have every business house and rooming house tagged, so as to let everybody know who owned the property. We have quite a few persons here who call themselves respectable, who are receiving rent from saloons and immoral places.

"I would have the city do its own paving; I would abolish the city jail and substitute a misdemeanor bar; establish a black list for drunkards and see that it was enforced; establish the single tax system; have a school for mothers; abolish the loan sharks and place free milk stations all over town."

TELEPHONE DEVICES.

A Dutch inventor, P. de Lange, residing in the Amsterdam consular district, has invented a simple little instrument that seems to be a decided improvement over the present-day telephone, according to Consul D. I. Murphy at Amsterdam. The receiver and transmitter are so small they may easily be carried in the vest pocket, taking up no more space than the ordinary watch. The cost of manufacture is estimated at thirty American cents.

Notwithstanding its diminutive size, the "thermaphone"—for so the inventor has named it—appears to have the advantage over the telephone of transmitting messages with perfect clearness and distinctness, vocalization being especially good, and there being no confusion of vowel sounds, letters, or figures. In the "thermaphone" the magnet and diaphragm of the telephone are eliminated, there being substituted a loop of exceedingly fine platinum wire, within a small aluminum cover pierced with minute holes. Currents passing through the wire cause changes in temperature, alternating from heat to cold with great rapidity, the consequent expansions and contractions of the surrounding air becoming evident as sound.

The receiver is so small (being not more than an inch in length and about the thickness of lead pencil) that it may be placed in the ear, connection being maintained by a thin wire. Either a single or double receiver may be used, and the hands are left free to make notes of any messages transmitted.

"I was present," says the consul "at a demonstration of the invention recently at the University of Utrecht, where, by permission of the Netherlands authorities, the wireless telegraph was brought into requisition in connection with the thermaphone with entire success. Subsequently, at the inventor's laboratory, I had the opportunity of transmitting and receiving messages to and from a distant room in the building over the ordinary wires, all the tests proving most satisfactory."

Among the advantages claimed for the thermaphone are compactness, reliability, simplicity and cheapness of construction, and clearness of enunciation. It is claimed, too, that because of the peculiar character of the receiver and the fact that it can be placed close to the drum of the ear, the thermaphone may be of advantage in ameliorating certain forms of deafness.

DELIVERY OF PORTABLE TELEPHONES UNDER FIRE

The delivery of telephones under fire seems to be a bit more exciting than the prosaic delivery of the same type of article in neutral countries where the instrument is used, not to pave the way for the decimation of an infantry brigade or an artillery battery, but to facilitate the transportation of a hogs-head of sugar or reserve a box at the theatre. A correspondent writes that deliveries out in France and Belgium are made "on the run."

"I suddenly got an imperative order," said the sapper of the signal section of the Royal Engineers. "It was in an envelope. There were 50 portable telephones to be distributed to the various army corps and I was put in charge of the job. I had a driver and two other men of the A. S. C. Besides the telephones there were four miles of wire on drums and a packing-case full of instruments. We started out full pelt in the motor lorry. We crashed and bumped in and out of towns, charging through hedges into fields and back into the roads again to avoid unpleasant encounters. In one of the semi-Flemish towns I delivered some of my telephones and took a receipt under fire. From this place we went on to another town, taking short cuts across meadows and parks and leaving our instruments and wire where specified.

Then we got the order to go 'like blazes' to the next town. The stuff was urgently wanted—the Germans were shelling the roadway and the British were unable to direct their own artillery. We made it all right, although I had to sort myself out from field telephones and yards of wire and telephone apparatus before we could make our final delivery. The telephones connected up right away and the British began to make things warm for the German batteries before we left. The enemy tried to cut us off on the way home but we returned all right and were complimented for our work. But I'd hate to be some of those soldier-linemen who sometimes have to lie on their stomachs to make their telephone connections or dig themselves into the earth like groundhogs."

FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUS.

Through the efforts of the committee on unemployment of the Youngstown, (Ohio), Chamber of Commerce, a branch of the Free State Employment Bureau, which is maintained jointly by state and city, was secured for Queenstown. There are seven other such bureaus in Ohio, which are operated under the supervision of the State Industrial Commission, and are located at Cleveland, Columbus, Akron, Cincinnati, Toledo and Dayton. These labor exchanges make no charge for services, either to applicants for work or to applicants for workers. Every effort is made to supply the employer with the best help available, and the applicant with the best position which can be secured.

The following will illustrate the volume of business which is being done by the seven Ohio agencies. During the month of July of this year Cleveland placed 2,897 persons; Toledo, 1,793; Columbus, 1,011; Cincinnati, 799; Youngstown, 606; Akron, 541; and Dayton, 507, a total of 8,154 persons. This is an increase of 147 per cent. over July of 1914, which is partly accounted for, no doubt, by the fact that three new agencies were established during the year.

The following are figures which were given to the Chamber recently by the superintendent of the local branch, giving an idea of the work done by him in Youngstown since the establishment of that branch four months ago:

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| Number of new registrations | 3,010 |
| Number of requests for workers | 2,504 |
| Number of applicants referred to position | 2,467 |
| Number of applicants reported placed | 2,074 |

PAUL L. HARVEY.

A MUNICIPAL BUREAU.

The State Bureau of Municipal Information established by the New York State Conference of Mayors and Other City Officials, has opened headquarters at Albany and engaged W. P. Capes as director. The purpose of the bureau is to supply information on all municipal subjects to officials in all cities of the state and to act for cities before any state body at Albany, including the legislature. It is in direct charge of a committee of five mayors, elected at the annual mayors' conference.