The Bend Bulletin

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ROBERT W. SAWYER, Manager

pendent Newspaper, standing for deal, clean business, clean polities ant interests of Bend and Central

rintion Rates

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1922

TIMBER TAXATION

. While Governor-elect Plerce is formulating his plans for a severance tax on national forest timber, we wonder if he is giving any thought to the matter of taxation on privately owned timber. Here is a big subject. Properly worked out it should be a great aid to the lumber industry and, at the same time, help to secure to the country a timber supply for the future.

Today timber in Oregon pays an annual tax just as does real estate or any other property. Timber is essentially a crop which returns nothing until it is harvested and sold. Faced with annual payments while no return is being realized, the owner must meet those payments from other sources or turn his crop into cash. We have no definite information on the subject, but we think it safe to assert that this feature of annual taxation has much to do with the plans of any owner to erect a mill and begin cutting. Whenever this feature controls, as it undoubtedly does in many cases, timber is cut when it should not be cut and the supply is becoming exhausted sooner than it should be

Then, too, with the timber once cut there is no incentive for growing another crop. In fact the owner cannot afford the annual cost of interest. taxes and fire protection. By the time another crop had grown, his investment would be more than the value of the trees.

Recognition of the situation has ing timber and the substitution therefor of a yield tax to be paid when the flag of your king; it is the flag the crop is harvested. Such a tax of yourself and your neighbors. would tend to encourage the perpetuation of forests; it would take to see the question given serious consideration here in Oregon.

The National Lumber Bulletin has as dealt with in the Massachusetts forest tax law:

'A crop of corn takes 80 days to every day it would amount to the present method of taxing forest land Colonel Alvin M. Owsley, National would be on a different basis. Not every year," says the Massachusetts Commander of the American Legion. having done so the designation of the department of conservation, division of forestry, in contrasting the previous tax system on forest property with the recent Massachusetts forest tax law by which the standing growth shall be free of tax until cut. or until it has reached a specified average yield per acre. Concerning the effect of the previous tax system the department of conservation says: "Under the general property tax, taxation of forest land is based on

property must have a more or less stable annual income with which to carry on community functions. "It is this adjustment of the tw

diametrically opposite interests of other one thing has been the stumbling block to the incorporation of the field tax into the general revenue system of the states.

. \$2.00 \$1.00 \$4,50 The forest service recognizes that so long as the forest fire and taxation problems remain unsolved, forconservation and reforestation est are practically out of the question."

RESPECT THE FLAG displayed, son, stand up and take off assistance or advice. This is espeyour hat. Somebody may titter. It is in the blood of some to deride all lems of the discharged soldier have expression of noble sentiment. You given rise to numerous governmental may blaspheme in the street and agencies, and the Red Cross has destagger drunken in public places, and the bystanders will not pay much at- the man with the problem and the tention to you, but if you should get agency which cares for it. At pres-

breeze, most people will think you are showing off.

But don't you mind! When Old Glory comes along, salute, and let them think what they please! When the band plays "The Star Spangled Banner" in a restaurant or hotel dining room, get up, even if you rise alone; stand there, and don't be ashamed of it, either.

Don't be ashamed when your threat chokes and the tears come when you see the flag flying from the masts of our ships on the great seas or floating from every flagstaff of the republic. You will never have a worthier emotion. For of all the signs and symbols since the world began there is none so full of meaning as the flag of this country.

Other flags mean a glorious past this flag means a glorious future. It is not so much the flag of our fathers as it is the fing of our children, and given rise to a proposal for the aban- of countless children yet unborn. It donment of an annual tax on stand- is the flag of tomorrow, the signal of the "good time coming." It is not

Your flag stands for humanity, for an equal opportunity to all the sons from the question of harvest the ele- of men. Of course, we have not yet ment of taxation, it should tend to arrived at that goal; injustice still commission of the route from Prinestabilize the industry. We would like dwells among us; senseless and cruel customs of the past still cling to us, highway. The question was discussed but the flag leads the way to righting in this column last Wednesday and

the wrongs of men. the following to say on the subject Our flag is the world's symbol of that there was no designation for liberty. That piece of red, white and federal aid of the road between Fort blue bunting means five thousand years of struggle upwards. It is the full grown flower of generations fighting for liberty. It is the century plant of human hope in bloom.— Colonel Alvin M. Owsley, National Commander of the American Legion. Rock and Lakeview. We regret that our neighbor does not touch on that point in the editorial referred to. If the commission had acted to put both roads on the map, the matter would be on a different basis. Not blue bunting means five thousand Rock and Lakeview. We regret that mature. If the corn crop were taxed full grown flower of generations, point in the editorial referred to. same burden on the owner as the plant of human hope in bloom. --

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fords in Shoes, also the largest and most complete

IN APPRECIATION

BEND BULLETIN, BEND, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1922

In another column we print today people of the north end of Lake a letter from "An Observer" concerning the work which Mrs. Vernon A. the timber land owner and the local Forbes is doing as secretary of the tions. The commission says, in effect, read my home news in your paper, have been an isolated stretch of road communities which more than any Bend chapter of the American Red that the people of northern Lake Your news items seem not to contain Cross. More than once in the past county who want to get to Bend must a single word too few or one too are integral parts of the same system we have spoken of this work and ex- come to a point on the Central Ore- many." pressed our belief that nothing finer here and then cover that distance to sort of thing. It has a tendency to through Madras, Redmond, Bend and was being done in the community for the aid of those needing relief. We are glad to have the present oppor-tunity of printing the opfilion of another and of again expressing our OWB.

In a town the size of Bend cases are continually arising where indi-When you see the Stars and Stripes viduals or families need temporary cially true since the war. The prob veloped as the liaison office between down on your knees and pray to Al- ent and for some time to come this mighty God, or if you should stand is and will be its greatest work. It bareheaded while a company of old always will have problems of social soldiers marches by with flags to the relief, possibly more while so many without acquaintance or other contact are being attracted to the town than later. The Bend chapter, under Mrs. Forbes, is steadily and efficiently dealing with these problems.

> While not a social worker in the sense of having had a long training. Mrs. Forbes has taken the short course given by the Red Cross. More valuable than this, however, has been the experience gained in several years of work in charge of the Bend chapter's activities and a deeply sympa thic attitude and desire to be of service. The job is not one from which much publicity flows concerning results attained. Nor are the persons who are aided at all likely or in any position to make any public expression of their feelings. The feeling exists, however, and we think it due to Mrs. Forbes that this recognition

> of her service be given. Bend owes her a great debt of loyalty and support.

> > IS THIS SELFISH!

In an editorial entitled "Pure Seit-ishness," reprinted on this page, the Central Oregonian of Prineville takes Bend to task for its feeling concern-ing the designation by the highway In an editorial entitled "Pure Selfville to Lakeview as a secondary the especial point made of the fact

east road is a direct challenge to the

county and to Bend who are interested in the free and natural flow of on your paper. It contains all the have been impossible. Without these communication between the two sec- news in a clear, readable form. I gon highway some 40 miles east of town rather than to take the shorter keep our temper sweet and to help Fort Klamath is essentially a primary road by way of La Pine. The com- us feel a little satisfaction in our road. It has been so designated by mission refuses to include as a part efforts. There is no likelihood, we the state highway commission. The of the state highway system the 30 are sure, of its making us too vain. Prineville-Lakeview road is merely a miles of road between Fort Rock and because every now and then we get secondary road, designated for fed-La Pine, although it has been asked an equally weil aimed brickbat, eral aid, and could have been so des for by the county courts of both Lake usually anonymous. Between the two ignated only when connecting at each and Deschutes counties and by prac- we do our best to keep an even keel. tically every resident of northern

Lake county. We wonder if the Central Oregonian understands this fact. We won der if it considers it pure selfishness for Bend and Fort Rock and Silver Lake to want a connection through La Pine. We wonder if it considers this road not an integral part of the highway system. We hope that in its next issue the Central Oregonian will discuss this phase of the matter

A TRUE FISH STORY

A naturalist, writes James B. Thor sen in one of his clever insurance letters, once divided an acquarium with a clear glass partition. He put a lusty bass in one section and minnows in the other.

The bass struck every time a minnow approached the glass partition. After three days of fruitless lunging which netted him only bruises, he ceased his efforts and subsisted on the food that was dropped in. Then the naturalist removed the glass partition. The minnows swam all around the bass, but he did not strike at a single one. He had been thoroughly sold on the idea that business was farther from the truth. Every road bad. There's a moral here-take another shot at the partition. Maybe times worked for The Dalles-Cali-

it isn't there any more!-The Refornia highway as a necessary part of our transportation system. With- try them. corder

A BOUQUET

A subscriber writes us as follows: "Please allow me to compliment you

Of course, we are glad to hear this

Again the community is indebted to The Shevlin-Hixon band for a fine a lot of pleasure in their work, and give a lot of pleasure.

PURE SELFISHNESS (Prineville Central Oregonian)

have been reported all the way from report that if this road is built it

end with primary roads. Surely our friends to the west will recognize that such reports are untrue, unjust and altogether selfish. entertainment. Although not a It would be folly, when they are lo-"town" band, it is a real asset to cated on a primary road and boast Bend. Undoubtedly its members get population - running up to 5,000 or more, to begrudge a village of 1,500 by such concerts as last night's they an outlet to the south on a secondary road.

out it the Ochoco-McKenzie highway

would have been difficult to get and

the Bend to Burns highway would

the Prineville-Lakeview road would

worthless even to local residents. All

The Dalles-California highwa

and each is essential to the other.

Our neighbors of Bend have so long been accustomed to choice phrases and elegant diction about everything in Central Oregon being an attribute During the past few weeks it has of Bend, that we have caught a pareen rather a blow to the good roads ticle of it and this road has been desenthusiasts of the county to find that ignated the "No Snow Route." Pera bit of selfshness is breaking into haps we should not have been prethe excellent cooperation that has sumptuous. It might have been best heretofore characterized the road to have consulted them and secured building in Central Oregon. When their permission, or at least their ap the secondary market road from here proval, before giving this road i to Lakeview was spoken of as the name. But the term is so apt and "No Snow Route." the jealousy here- so appropriate of the road and tofore controlled in the actions of sounds so attractive that we believe Central Oregon road builders and it will be well to keep the name. But boosters cropped out. Emissaries in the meantime we trust our friends to the west, especially those of Mad-Madras to Silver Lake spreading the ras, Redmond and Bend, will forget the selfishness that has prompted means the loss of The Dalles-Call- these upwise attacks on the Prinefornia highway. Nothing could be ville-Lakeview road and get solidly behind the Central Oregon road proenthusiast in this county has at all gram.

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the value of the land and the standing growth combined. Until recently the annual tax levied on such property holders was not a serious burden because forest land was usually much undervalued. Of late, however, although stumpage values have risen, timber land valuations have risen still more. The injustice and poor business of taxing annually a crop that can only be realized on at long intervals of years is beginning to be acutely felt."

The new law proposes that young timber shall be taxed on the valuation of the land alone and the standing growth shall be free of tax until cut, or until it has reached a specified average yield per acre, when the owner will pay a tax of 6 per cent on the stumpage value of the trees. Commenting upon this Massachusetts forest tax act, Louis S. Murphy, timber land tax expert of the United States forest service, says it is an improvement in many ways over similar optional yield tax acts in force in other states. He continues:

"This particular type of law should work in Massachusetts, where there has been going on for the past 25 years or more a consistent agitation in favor of the better care and improvement of the forest land areas of the state. As a result many people. have been interested in undertaking to out forestry into practice on their own land either by planting or through general cultural methods.

"The yield tax is an ideal plan from the timber land owners' point of view for the reason that the bulk of the tax on his forest property is held in abeyance until his forest is cut; at that time the product is sold and the income made available to him out of which to pay these taxes.

"On the other hand, the local communifies in, forested sections, many of them dependent to a very large extent on taxes realized from forest



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