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H. W. NIBLEY

Taxpayers' Meeting

Pursuant to a general call for the
taxpayers of Union county to meet in
this city Saturday to discuss the
present system of assessment, about
sixty responded from the various pre-
cincts.

Hon. O D Huffman was chosen
chairman, and stated that the meeting
was ready to hear suggestions.

L Oldenberg, after a few remarks,
called for deputy assessor T A Rine-
hart, who was present, to inform the
meeting what the system of the Asses-
sor's office was this year.

Mr. Rinehart, in response, stated
that it was the intention of the assess-
or to assess all property at its actual
cash value and that he was ready to
answer all questions that was possible,
and that later in the meeting he
would state what the assessor had in-
structed him to inform the citizens at
this meeting.

Ex-Judge O P Goodall set the meet-
ing straight as to why it was called:
that many were apprehensive regarding
the new change, whereby property is
to be assessed at full value instead of
one third as in former years. He
showed plainly that Assessor Morton
was simply following the law. That
this was not a new law but has been
on the law books for years. That un-
der a former system whereby the state
tax was based upon the valuation of
taxable property within the state, that
in order that each county might escape
as much of the state tax as possible,
that it finally resulted in the assessors
of the various counties vying with each
other in reducing the actual valuation
to as low a point as possible.

Judge Goodall stated that Multnomah
county was not assessed to exceed
15 per cent. But now as the state tax
was based upon the actual expenses of
each county, the valuation was imma-
terial.

He commended the action taken by
the citizens at this time and said that
during his term as assessor he would
only have been too glad to have had
the assistance of the people in such a
manner, and suggested that a commit-
tee be appointed to assist the assessor
in his work.

Mr. Goodall stated that there were
certain interests that have great in-
fluence in the state and that it is al-
most impossible for any assessor to do
his full duty. He referred mainly to
the railroads, and to cite an instance
referred to the fact that last year the
railroads were assessed at \$8000 but
later the county court cut it down to
\$5500. He then went on to show that
in the beginning this road cost about
\$36,000 and was capitalized at \$74,000
and, according to their reports filed,
cleared between three and four per
cent, since which time the road has
been greatly improved and the busi-
ness largely increased. He showed
how this same company was assessed
in California at \$17,000 per mile and
at \$10,000 per mile in the states of
Washington and Idaho.

Deputy assessor Rinehart then read
the law and stated the assessment this
year would follow the law. He spoke
for over one half an hour going into
the details of the taxation question and
extended a pressing invitation for the
taxpayers to call at the assessor's
office and examine the assessments,
not only of their own, but that of their
neighbors, and if they thought any in-
justice was being done, the office
would certainly investigate. That the
taxpayers had another opportunity to
adjust, in case they thought they were
not receiving fair treatment, at the
hands of the assessor, to present their
case before the Board of Equalization.
He emphatically denied the report
that there had been a collusion or
compact between the O R & N Co. and
the assessor's office, whereby the com-
pany would not fight the proposition of
being assessed at \$12,000, and asked
the taxpayers to wait and see if they
did not have the nerve to assess the
railroads of this county, and also for
them to watch the values they would
place on Adams Avenue in La Grande.
A general discussion took place re-
garding how values should be ascer-
tained. Some preferred the Henry
George system, others one way and
another. The fruit men made the
strongest plea on the ground that their
orchards were their crop and, as the
wheat, hay and other crops were not
taxed, their orchards should not be.
It was shown that orchards were not
taxed until they bore.

It was also stated that the best lands
in the valley were being assessed this
year at \$40 per acre as against \$13 and
\$15 heretofore.

Finally, a committee consisting of
P Davis of La Grande precinct, T T
Glenn of Summerville and Geo. Miller
of the Cove was appointed to select a
committee from the various precincts
of the county to assist the assessor in
arriving at equitable values and they
reported as follows: La Grande, O P
Goodall; Cove, Geo. Miller; Union,
Nels Bohonover; North Powder, How-
ard Campbell; Summerville, J L Mc-
Kinnis; Elgin, James Masterton; Allice
J W Lytle.

Se ator McDonald arrived at the
close of the meeting and responded to
several questions as to the change in
the assessment laws passed at the last
legislature, and replied with the ex-

ception of extending the time five
years more for providing for the present
system of arranging for state taxes,
there was no change. He, however, was
of the opinion that we were about the
only county in the state assessing at
full value and he was afraid that the
next legislature might change the law
and then, with our high assessment we
might be forced to pay a greater por-
tion of the state tax than other counties.
He also thought that this meeting
should meet again next Saturday as
Senator Walter Pierce would be present
and as he had given both sides consid-
erable consideration, he thought he
would be able to give valuable advice
and the meeting so adjourned.

SAD DEATHS IN BAKER CITY

News comes from Baker City that
the daughter of Mr. T N Profit, the
well known eastern Oregon stockman
of Baker City, had the misfortune to
lose his only child, Mrs. Knapp Dool-
ey, early Sunday morning from the
effects of an operation for appendicitis,
having had a very bad case. The loss to
Mr. Profit is doubly sad owing to the
fact that he lost his wife only six
months ago, and his daughter was his
only comfort.

On the same day that Mrs. Dool-
ey was operated on, Mrs. Horace B Ryd-
er was also operated on for the same
cause, these two ladies being insepar-
able companions for years, and Mrs.
Ryder died on Friday and Mrs. Dool-
ey Sunday morning, making the
case a very sad and strange one. The
two had only been married several
months, and their funerals were con-
ducted from the Presbyterian church
in Baker City Monday afternoon,
being attended by many friends of the
two deceased.

A Card of Thanks

To the many kind friends who so
generously assisted us during the last
illness, and burial of our beloved
father, we wish to express our heart-
felt thanks, and may the God of love
be merciful to you.

The Daughter's of H W Roberts.

Anarchist Captured

Rome May 8.—The anarchist Vittorio
Jaffel has been arrested at Cairo,
Egypt, Jaffel, who is 27 years old,
came from Patterson, N J with Bresol,
the assassin of King Humbert. Shortly
before King Humbert was assassinated
Jaffel went to Switzerland, where he
met Bresol and Bresol's accomplice in
the murder of the Italian king, whose
death the three plotted. After the
assassination Jaffel was arrested at
Berne, but owing to there being no
extradition treaty between Italy and
Switzerland, he could not be delivered
to the Italian authorities. A court at
Milan in 1901, however, tried Jaffel
and sentenced him to solitary confine-
ment for life. It is stated that Jaffel
had expressed his intention of murder-
ing King Victor Emmanuel.

Several members of the Order of
Railway Conductors from the west
arrived in the city this morning and
caught the special here for Portland.

Baby sleeps and grows while mammy
rests if Hollister's Rocky Mountain
Tea is given. It is the greatest baby
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35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Newlin
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100 F—La Grande Lodge, No 11 meets in
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STAR ENCAMPMENT No 31, I. O. O. F.
meets every first and third Thursdays in the
month in Odd Fellows hall. Visiting patri-
archs always welcome. I. K. Snook, C. F.
Edmond Robinson, Scribe

EASTERN STAR O E M Hope Chapter No
13 meets the second and fourth Wednesday of
each month at 7:30 p m in Masonic Temple
Merle Aldrich, W M 11

Mary A Warnick, Sec

M. W. A.—La Grande Camp No. 793 meets
every first and third Wednesday of the
month at I. O. O. F. Hall. All visiting neigh-
bors are cordially invited to attend.
John Hall, Clerk. E. Reiland, V. C.

FORESTERS OF AMERICA—Court Maid
Marion, No 22 meets each Thursday night in
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