



WOULD REPEAL ALL MILAGE TAX LAWS

TAX COMMISSION URGED TO RECOMMEND MOVE

ALL WANT LOWER TAX OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS HAVE VARIOUS IDEAS AT BAKER MEETING.

By the Editor.

The repeal of the milage tax measures which were passed in 1920 was strongly urged at the meeting held in Baker Monday by the tax investigation commission.

Ex-Senator Strayer, of Baker, was foremost in urging this move and he was seconded by many of the county officials and citizens present from Baker and Malheur counties. Senator Strayer asserted that the University of Oregon and the Oregon Agricultural college have a vast number of men on the payrolls. Members of the faculty visit high schools in the state and urge students to attend the higher institutions. These same faculty members appear before the legislature only and demand more money to take care of the overflow of students registering, Senator Strayer asserted. Eliminate the last appropriation of \$1,200,000 for universities, the speaker urged.

Senator Strayer also favored a constitutional amendment limiting the vote on all taxing measures to taxpayers only and predicted that the measure would pass if the press of the state would get behind it.

Senator Strayer's talk before the commission was typical of the ideas of a big majority of those present.

"If any scheme you devise to reduce taxes works out as the inheritance tax did," he continued, "we are unalterably opposed to it. Not a one dollar of additional revenue has been reflected in a relief on the real estate tax. The law simply supplied more money to be spent."

"We want to call a halt and spend less money. Let's put the blame where it belongs. These things all originate in certain interests. These interests induce the legislature to endorse the proposed expenditures and put them up to the people. The people, relying on the legislature and the press, pass them. The special interests, the legislature, the press and last of all the people are to blame for high taxes. We would let no man vote on taxation problems unless he was a taxpayer."

Many ideas for tax reductions were expressed at the meeting, but everyone concurred in one idea and that was:

Oregon is in a serious financial situation due to rapidly mounting taxes. Something must be done at once to effect a big tax saving. And as it was expressed by many of the speakers, "the way to reduce is to reduce." No relief can be expected by a shift of the tax burden. Less tax money must be spent, from the smallest political sub-division up to the state government itself.

In 1910 the entire tax levying agencies of the state, which means counties, special districts and the state government, raised \$11,960,278. This sum rose to the enormous amount of \$41,117,367 in 1921, not including the gasoline tax, automobile licenses, about \$800,000 received by different state departments in fees and the fees and fines of the various courts of the state.

During the same period of time the assessed valuation of the state increased only 20.8 per cent and the population increased but 18 per cent.

These facts were given the tax meeting at Baker by I. N. Day, chairman of the special commission, at the opening of the meeting. The purpose of the commission was to devise some means to relieve real estate of its heavy burden. Chairman Day asserted, the commission was holding meetings all over the state to gather ideas and facts. Commissioners present were Chairman Day, C. S. Chapman, Coe McKenna and Walter Pierce.

"The total taxes raised in Oregon amount to \$56 for every man, woman and child," said Chairman Day. "The amount raised for purely state purposes is but 3 1/2 per cent of the total or \$1.96 per capita. Retrenchment must come somewhere in the spread from this amount and the \$56 per capita for all expenditures. Purely state expenditures cannot be materially reduced. The way to stop taxes is to stop levying them."

While Chairman Day was specific in stating the commission was not at the meeting to divide ideas but to gather them, several men present were heard to remark after the meeting that it was apparent at least three members of the commission present put forth careful efforts to propogate in the minds of their hearers "net" ideas of their own, and these did not always conform with each other.

"We cannot get away from these high taxes," said Judge E. H. Test, of Malheur county, "unless some of the present milage taxes are abolished. The per capita tax in Malheur county is higher than in any other and the stockmen and farmers are unable to pay their taxes. The state taxes have increased more in Malheur county than in any other county in the state."

Judge Dodson, of Baker, asserted railroads were allowed to make a certain percentage on their investment but the farmers did not make 1 per cent last year and had no re-

Rain Causes High Water.

The warm rains of the past week have been quite general over southeastern Oregon, it is reported, and have melted a little of the snow at least. The Malheur river has risen something over a foot but no damage has been done.

Reports came to County Judge Test that a bridge in the interior had gone out from high water.

HORSE KILLS BLAYLOCK

ACCIDENT FATAL TO OWYHEE RANCHER WHILE ROPING CALF RECENTLY.

Brief news comes to the Enterprise this week from its special correspondent at Owyhee that Sam Blaylock died recently from injuries received when his horse fell upon him. The rancher was roping a calf on the Peutz ranch at Owyhee.

The deceased leaves a wife and two children.

PARENT-TEACHER MEETING

The Vale P.-T. A. held their regular meeting in the music room of the school house last Tuesday evening. It was decided to give the carnival on Friday, April 7. The topic of playing marbles for keeps was discussed ably from both sides. The men taking one side, and the women the other. Mr. Wellman gave a talk on "Club Work Organization."

Weekend in Ontario

Mrs. Frank Scott spent the weekend with her sister, Mrs. Hattie Teter of Ontario. She returned the first of this week after enjoying a pleasant visit.

Fred Sheets Manager—Fred L. Sheets has recently accepted a position from George Huntington Currey as manager of the Book Nook Printery of Baker and his family have moved to their new home. Mr. Sheets worked at the Enterprise office in the city several years and this fall moved to Nyssa where he edited the Gate City Journal a few months. Jas. A. Dement, Jr., is now managing the Nyssa paper.

Dr. Thurston Here—Dr. Thos. Thurston, of the Vale Hot Springs Sanitarium, recently returned from Philadelphia, where he was called because of the death of his wife, a few weeks ago.

Small Talks of Week

Mr. Shiva, an engineer of the Morrison Knudsen company of Boise, was in Vale this week on business in connection with the highway work.

Phil Morton of Westfall came down the first of the week and ransacted business here.

O. E. Carman motored to Ontario on business Tuesday.

Percy Stacey was in Vale on a business and pleasure trip this week.

Dick Lockett of Brogan was in town Tuesday.

Pink Becker, a rancher of the Westfall country, was registered at the Arlington hotel this week.

Messrs. H. C. and S. F. Skinner of the interior were business visitors Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs. Velva Small of Westfall was in town on business this week.

Henry Wakerlig of Westfall made a trip to the county seat the first of the week.

Ernest Armenti of Ontario was in Vale Tuesday.

P. H. Stacey of Payette made a trip to Vale Monday and returned the following day.

C. E. Johnson of Westfall was registered at the Drexel hotel the first of the week.

Joe Carter of Juntura was in Vale Monday.

Mrs. Joe Edwards of Westfall was in the city for medical treatment the greater part of the week. She is the proprietor of a transacted business in the city the first of the week.

F. S. Evans of Ontario was in Vale Thursday.

J. S. Brown was a business visitor from Nampa the last of the week.

R. N. Cole motored to Ontario Wednesday.

Harry Nesbitt and C. A. Burnett were over from Weatherby Thursday morning on important business, and returned a short time later.

left in sight.

R. D. Lytle, district attorney of Malheur county, urged more tax on money, notes and accounts and an actual cash value assessment made on everything. He also urged an individual tax as a basic tax.

To assess money in banks upon the day the comptroller of currency made a call for a statement would solve that problem, in the opinion of Andrew M. Graham, assessor of Malheur county. Eastern Oregon is getting the worst of the tax rating for state taxation purposes due to the character of its land, asserted Mr. Graham. Tillable land in Western Oregon can produce whenever a plow is put into it, but tillable land in Eastern Oregon must first have expensive water put on it before it will produce. Yet tillable land in Eastern Oregon is rated with the same class in Western Oregon, whether it has water or not, he said.

Out of the ideas it has and will receive by its tour of the state, the special commission will undoubtedly present some definite tax reform legislation to the legislature next year. Whether the legislature will accept this is another question. But at the best no relief can be had this year.

INTERIOR PHONES TO BE IMPROVED

BUSINESS SERVICE--VALE TO BURNS-- WILL BE BETTER

LAKNESS IS IN CHARGE

TELEPHONE COMPANY OF HARNEY REORGANIZED BY MALHEUR CO. BUSINESS MAN.

Telephone service for Vale to interior points will be greatly bettered when plans which J. A. Lakness, general manager of the newly organized Central Oregon Telephone company, have been put into effect. These plans include improvements to the line from Vale up the Malheur river canyon to Crane and Burns and the extension of service from Burns to Canyon City, Silver Creek, Narrows, Harney and all the smaller communities of the interior district.

These improvements will benefit business interests of the county. Long distance service has been very poor to Burns and other interior points and the improvements will be welcomed.

Mr. Lakness, general manager and vice-president of the Malheur Home Telephone company, recently reorganized the telephone companies of Harney county into the new concern and took management of it. It will include the properties of the old Inter-Mountain Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Christian Church.

Bible school, 10 a. m.

At 11 o'clock dedication sermon by Rev. O. F. Swander of Portland. Anthem by choir, "The Solid Rock."

Violin solo, Mrs. Coats.

Vocal solo, Mr. F. Luse.

Basket dinner at 1 o'clock, store building opposite Home Lumber Co.

At 3 p. m., Communion service, followed by anthem, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah," choir.

Solo, Mrs. Barbary.

Sermon by Rev. C. F. Swander.

Baptismal service to conclude this service.

At 7 p. m., dedication service. Anthem by choir.

Memoirs of the past, B. Mulkey.

Dedication service, led by pastor.

At 8 p. m., sermon by Rev. C. F. Swander.

Anthem, "Sweet Is the Light of the Sabbath Eve," choir.

Burning up the notes and mortgages on church building, conducted by the official board of the church. All are invited to come to all these services. J. A. Melton.

With Relatives

James Lawrence, who formerly resided in Vale but now of Baker, visited relatives and friends in the community this week. He also attended to business affairs.

Men Injured

Word was recently received by the King Construction company, who is putting in the highway near the city, that several men who were employed in Vale a few months ago were in an accident that occurred on the work the company is doing between Wasco and Moro. The men who were injured are Hal Lewis, Herman Mans and Newall Shields, all of whom were quite well known in Vale. No details were learned excepting that the men were sent to the hospital in Portland, and that all will recover.

Ironside Visitor

Dave Lawrence, a resident of Ironside, visited friends and relatives in the community last week and recently returned to his home.

Veelman Here

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Veelman, who formerly owned the Vale Electric Bakery, were in the city this week and will remain a short time. They are over from Boise on a pleasure trip. They are accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Otto J. Petrick and are enjoying the visit with friends very much. Mr. Veelman is also setting up business affairs.

Dresses on Display

A variety of beautiful spring dresses, coats and suits were on display and for sale at the Warm-springs Dry Goods store the early part of the week.

Called Home

Mrs. F. G. Cleveland was called to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Hill, near Nyssa, on Saturday because of the illness of her mother. She returned Monday, and her mother is out of danger, although still quite ill and in the care of a trained nurse.

Row Of Signs

Built Around Two Sides of Ball Park by Merchants With Ads

Would Solve Problem Which Club Is Trying to Solve

To Fence Park

By Texas Leaguer

OPERETTA PROVED GREAT SUCCESS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SHOW UNUSUAL ABILITY

CROWD TURNED AWAY TEN MINUTES AFTER DOORS OPENED THEATRE WAS OVERFLOWING.

By Editor of School Notes.

The operetta, "Love Pirates of Hawaii," which was presented Friday night by students of the Vale high school, was a very great success. The theatre was crowded to even more than its greatest seating capacity, and it was a crowd which was thoroughly appreciative and enthusiastic all through the play.

The opening scene was a chorus of Hawaiian girls dressed attractively in the costume of their native country, strutting ukuleles and singing songs of their aloha land. Those in the chorus were Leah Lumpee, Beth Ager, Rose Propst, Veryl Griggs, Evelyn Hyde, Gladys Chester, Martina Unanimo, Margaret Cleveland, Ruby Balgeman, Georgia Hickman, Agnes Beach, Irene Chester, Mae Foiles, Elizabeth Hansen, Aileen Moo, Valued King, Ruth Hess and Verda Doolittle.

Miss Primer, teacher of a girls' seminary in Hawaii, was entertainingly played by Verdi Miller. Her songs and conversation kept the attention of the audience. The action in this part was especially interesting, since Miss Primer captured not only the fearless(?) pirate chief, but his whole band of braves, as well, to serve as cooks in her kitchen.

Dyer Bennett, as the pirate chief, was very ferocious and imposing. His pirates, Paul Ager, Kenneth McGilivray, Tom Miller, Allen Mutart, Clair Van Riper, John Boswell, George Hart and Cecil Ager, were all dressed in appropriate and colorful costumes, with various facial make-ups, causing them to look realistic and entertaining to a very high degree. "Scary" (Paul Ager) has a great many laughs to his credit, as he acted his part very well.

Miss Nellie Thompson, who took the part of the American girl, won much admiration. She presented her part with great ability and helped make the operetta a success by her singing.

A very graceful Hawaiian dance was given by Miss Leah Lumpee, in one scene, that was directed by Mrs. Frank Oxman.

One very good scene in the play was where Billy Woods (Herbert Purvis), of the United States Marine Corps, came in bearing the grand old flag about which some songs followed.

The operetta was given in two acts, and there was no lack of interest at any time during the evening. All had their parts well, and much credit is due to Mr. Engeldinger, the director, for his excellent training and supervision of the students.

The high school orchestra provided music. Mr. Engeldinger played the piano. To Miss Hendricks is due appreciation for training the girls in their Hawaiian dances, which added to the Hawaiian atmosphere of the setting.

"Love Pirates of Hawaii" was a decided success, not only from a financial standpoint, but also because of its popularity.

WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

H. R. Wellman Delivers Instructive Talk—Entertaining Program. Is Given.

The Women's Club of Vale had a very entertaining program meeting at the school house Wednesday evening, that was very well attended.

One of the most important features of the evening were discussions on beautifying the town. H. R. Wellman, county club leader, delivered an instructive talk on the preparation of flower beds, and gave very clear instructions on getting rid of alkali.

Several entertaining musical numbers were then rendered. Mrs. H. E. Young and F. A. Luse sang beautiful vocal solos. A piano duet by Prof. Vincent Engeldinger and Miss Georgia Hickman was highly praised.

Improvements for the Vale cemetery were discussed and more definite plans will probably be made later on.

The club members served delicious refreshments at the close of the evening.

Join Marines

Two Vale boys, Lance Earp and LaVern Zutz, left Saturday for Vancouver, Wash., where they were examined and have enlisted in the Marine Corps of the United States service. The boys have both lived in Vale a number of years and their decision to join the service was a surprise to their friends.

A letter received from the boys since leaving states that they were examined with 23 others and that only three of the 25 passed, among them Lance and LaVern. The Vale boys have left Vancouver for a camp in California.

Mrs. Wm. Pritchett and her children moved to town from Mallett, where they have spent the greater part of the winter. Mrs. Pritchett is teaching the White Settlement school and is driving out and back in the evening.

Called Home

Mrs. H. A. Shepard returned to her home in Boise on Monday after spending a very pleasant week in Vale visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Mabel Hart.

New Stenographer

Miss Bessie Poust, who has been employed as stenographer in County Clerk Sackett's office the past year, left on Wednesday for her home in Payette, where she will remain indefinitely. Miss Poust expects to visit on the coast in the near future.

Miss Katherine Cody arrived in Vale from her home in Portland the first of the week and will take the position formerly held by Miss Poust.

Thought Saw Dead One.

WAS TROWN FROM HORSE AND FROZEN NEAR CREST—TWO WEEKS AGO.

Vencel D. Schrader of Creston, aged 60, died at the Holy Rosary hospital in Ontario Saturday, following an operation. He was brought to Ontario Monday a week ago with hands and feet frozen, for medical treatment in hope that the frozen limbs might be saved, but blood poisoning set in and he was operated on.

Schrader was thrown from a horse one evening about two weeks ago while on his way home from River-side. Because of a badly sprained ankle he was unable to walk and lay by the roadside all night. The next morning he managed to crawl to his ranch house a short distance away and there tried to administer first aid, but because of his weak condition was unable to build a fire, or to do any more than apply cold water to his frozen limbs. After staying in the cold house three days, Schrader crawled to his neighbor's home, three miles away, and from there was taken to the hospital in Ontario.

At first it was thought that Schrader would recover, and that it was only necessary to amputate one hand and several fingers of the other, and that circulation could be restored to the frozen feet. But later symptoms of blood poisoning appeared and it was decided very necessary to amputate the feet also. As a result of the operation, the suffering man died a few hours later.

Mr. Schrader has lived in the county a number of years and the last few years has been a rancher of Creston. A son, P. W. Schrader, of Harper, survives him.

Social Events of Week

Bridge Party.

Mrs. T. T. Nelson delightfully entertained at her home last Friday afternoon with a bridge party. There were four tables and Mrs. Frank Oxman was prize winner.

The rooms were prettily decorated in St. Patrick's Day colors. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent by the guests playing bridge.

Those who enjoyed the social function were: Mrs. C. C. Mueller, Mrs. John P. Houston, Mrs. Leslie Hope, Mrs. H. W. Champneys, Mrs. H. W. Steelhammer, Mrs. Harry Speith, Mrs. A. Rose, Mrs. Ernest Diven, Mrs. Frank Oxman, Mrs. George E. Davis, Mrs. Chas. Burrow, Mrs. Jas. Smith, Mrs. L. P. Lumpee, Mrs. L. J. Hadley, Mrs. G. W. Ager, and Mrs. Earl Neeley.

Dinner Party.

Miss Ida Hendricks, coach of the girls' basketball team, entertained the girls and Miss Helen Mueller, referee of the game with Ontario, at dinner Saturday evening at the home of Mrs. O. E. Carman.

High school colors of orange and black were used through the decorative scheme and dainty place cards, with basket ball girls, were used. There were eleven covers.

A pleasant social time was enjoyed.

Dancing Party.

At the close of the basket ball season on Monday evening, the Misses La Vera, Patsy and Eileen Moe entertained the boys' and girls' teams with a delightful dancing party. There were nineteen guests invited, including Coach Cosman and Mrs. Cosman, and Miss Ida Hendricks, coach of the girls' team. A pleasant evening was spent dancing and the Misses girls proved very charming hostesses.

Monday Study Club.

Mrs. Allen Wilcox was hostess to the Monday Study Club this week and the afternoon was pleasantly spent. Mrs. R. E. Weant read a paper on the "Life of Sir Walter Scott" and Mrs. L. J. Hadley prepared an interesting one on "Location of Principal Cities and Towns by Counties and Their Points of Interest in Oregon."

Ladies Aid.

The Ladies Aid met at the home of Mrs. H. E. Young this week with Mrs. Alda Chester as hostess. Roll call was answered with Irish quotations. A St. Patrick's program was given, led by Mrs. Chester. Later in the afternoon a business session was called. An enjoyable afternoon was spent.

Entertain at Dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Cosman entertained the boys basketball team at dinner Thursday evening. The boys enjoyed the dinner very much, and promise Coach Cosman to return again at his pleasure.

Purchase Car.

George Horton purchased a car from the Ford Garage last week but hasn't been stepping out so much as expected because of muddy roads.

MALHEUR MINES TO RENEW ACTIVITIES

FAMOUS EL DorADO OF SIXTIES MAY "COME BACK"

HIDDEN LODE SOUGHT

The coming summer will see renewed activity in the famed mining districts in northern Malheur county, according to George H. Bodfish, prominent merchant of Malheur City. The Rainbow, the Golden Eagle and the Hope mines will all be worked on more or less large scales, in addition to the many prospectors and smaller mining activities which will be in evidence. The district around Malheur City will take on new life, Mr. Bodfish predicts, and business conditions will be better.

The Malheur county mines have been dormant for many years as far as extensive placer operations are concerned. There has been desultory mining by small groups and individual prospectors but nothing to compare with the days which made this district famous.

Malheur City is the old "New Eldorado" of the early sixties. It is the center of some of the richest placer mines ever developed in the West. Millions were taken in gold from these fields.

There are old-time miners in Malheur county who believe that the Malheur county mines will "come back" some of these days and for a second time ascend to the hall of fame in the mining world. They call attention to the geographical shape of the placer fields in this district, which are along three sides of a triangle. Somewhere within this triangle, in the Burnt River mountains, they believe, lies hidden the mother lode from which this placer gold was washed at one time. Old prospectors have never given up this idea and are continually searching for this virgin deposit of the precious metal.

Who knows? Their dreams may come true and Malheur county see another rush to its mines that may far outdistance the rush of the early sixties.

"TRYOUT" CONTEST HELD

Louene Doolittle Wins First Place in Preliminary Contest

Louene Doolittle, who spoke in the preliminary contest at the school house with ten other contestants Thursday evening won first place and will represent Vale in the county contest to be held at Nyssa Saturday evening, March 25. Vale has won the cup twice in succession, and if she secures it this time it becomes the permanent property of the Vale school.

Pupils in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades could enter the contest and the winner in the "tryout" is a student in the seventh grade. Her reading was entitled, "Lending a Hand," and was very entertaining. Danton Humphrey won second place. All the contestants did especially well and the judges, who were County School Superintendent Mrs. E. M. Crail, George E. Davis and W. G. Thomson, declared that they never before heard a group of such uniformly good speakers in a single "tryout."

An excellent crowd attended and the school realized \$23.40 to assist in defraying expense of present and future contests. The special numbers on the program, which follows, were very good.

Vocal solo, Miss Nellie Thompson. "George Confides," Virgil Johnson. "Advice of Terzah Ann," Hazel Hope. "Taking the Elevator," Josephine Johnson. "Lending a Hand," Louene Doolittle. "The Bear Story," Glenn High. "The Busybody," Charley Lawrence. "The Inventor's Wife," Orpha Ager. "The Wedding," Grace McGilivray. "The Coward," Danton Humphrey. Instrumental solo, Mr. Vincent Engeldinger.

Vocal solo, Mr. Frank Luse. Decision of judges.

Accepts Position.

Ernest Diven, who has lived in Vale a number of years, recently accepted a position of some prominence as assistant cashier in the new bank which opened for business in Wilder, Idaho, last Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Diven left for their new home last Sunday. Their departure from the city where they have lived so long is a disappointment to many friends in Vale. Mr. Diven, however, will retain Vale as his legal home and expects to return quite often this summer to play ball.

At Stacey Home.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Yates of Boise visited Miss Crystal Stacey, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Stacey, Monday. Mr. Yates was also a business visitor in this part of the country.

Graveling Road.

O. E. Carman believes in good roads and for some little time he has been busy spare moments graveling the public road in front of his property. The little stretch is a beauty spot which travelers appreciate.

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