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COUNTY AND CITY CONSOLIDATION

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Will Permit County and Cities to Consolidate With One Government City Would Run Whole Thing

It is a question whether the person who thinks he will vote for the proposed Consolidation Amendment has weighed all phases of the question. Such a plan would undoubtedly be better for the city. It will spread out the city's field of resources wonderfully. The burdens that are now borne by a few square miles would then be distributed over the entire county. It would mean a doubling of the taxation to the property owner in the country, in all probability. At any rate he would feel a very substantial increase. If this is true, and there is little or no reason to deny it, of what advantage would it be to a country district to be absorbed by the city? True it would get rid of its portion of county office support. But the same burdens would have to be borne in some other way. The city now does not maintain a department for the registration of documents, deeds etc. Such a department would still have to be maintained. The various courts would no doubt still have to be kept up. Possibly the Sheriff's office could be eliminated but there would be need of an increase in the constables and police department more than sufficient to meet this. The assessment and collection departments could not be confused, or united, with the department of city revenue. The sources are too different and they would not work out together at all. About the only thing that could be conducted without loss would be the city's educational department and that is so little a part of the city government that it could hardly be classed as the same.

There would be no saving in road or street work. In fact it is generally recognized that it costs more to get a given amount of road improvement done in the city than it does in the county, going into the city means the same number of employees with perhaps a few less official heads. It will mean more supervisors and less of popular control of authority. It will double the work of the department heads and hence require more time for the accomplishment of any undertaking.

The individual who thinks he is going to cut down expenses and strengthen popular control by uniting the city and town will make a big mistake. Under a city government a town like Gresham might wait a long time before an important local improvement was even considered. And Gresham could do nothing but petition and wait.

Thus it will be seen that it will be safe to vote carefully on the question of approving a plan where cities and counties may unite in one government and that a city government.

The proposition set forth in the two amendments providing for tax laws that shall give more freedom to collectors, and commissions having in hand the levying of taxes or in any way construing the law or the instance should be considered very carefully. Giving the privilege to any body or commission that will enable them to discriminate as to who shall pay more or less taxes, or a higher or lower rate, or on a greater or less valuation proportionately to other property, is a dangerous one and one that will not fail to meet abuse. Even the present law of "equality and uniformity" has been abused so what could we expect from a provision that suggests discrimination between property owners. It is absolutely impossible to assess and collect taxes in a manner that will not be proportionately more oppressive to some people than to others. The present law is probably as fair as any. If all people paid taxes on their full valuation there would be little to complain of and it is perfectly rational to believe that as large a proportion of people pay their apportionment of taxes, and justly, under the present plan as any other. What then would be gained by changing to a plan that offers as a first essential condition, that there would be discrimination. The amendments given on pages 12, 13, and 14 of the pamphlet will bear careful study.

Members of the local Masonic fraternity together with the Eastern Star gave an open meeting on Wednesday evening and entertained a number of their friends. Refreshments were served, a good program was rendered, and a very fine time was reported.

MRS. CLAUDE DANN INJURED ON STREET CAR

Mrs. Claude Dann was seriously hurt Saturday evening about 8 o'clock when boarding a car at Eleventh and Hawthorne. The conductor was too busy talking to some girl, to notice the passengers boarding, gave the signal, the train started with a jerk, only half of the crowd were able to get on and Mrs. Dann was thrown against the controller box and badly bruised. A doctor was called when she got home. She is recovering slowly.

The conductor failed to report the accident but the company doctor called the next day, notice having been sent in from Lents. It was simply a case of an inefficient employee.

STREET SPEAKING AT LENTS TUESDAY EVE.

Arrangements are being made to have speaking of a political nature on the streets of Lents next Tuesday evening. Speakers from the Anti-Saloon forces will be out to conduct the meetings. Something specially good is expected.

Baseball Notes.

One of the prettiest games of the season was played on the Lents grounds Sunday when the Lents Giants defeated the fast St. Andrews team by the score of 4 to 3, one single, two two base hits and a triple was the best the visitors could do with southpaw Hyman, while eleven hits were cleaned off the Tacoma pitcher Wallimans, five of them for extra bases including Messengers home run in the sixth inning with none on. Great credit is due to every Giant, especially Hyman, who fanned eighteen college men, got a two base hit and scored once. Bill Boland played a wonderful game getting four hits in five times to bat.

It was stated in one of the daily papers the other morning that the bringing of Pat Eastly to the Beavers from Ballard would mean that Webb or Moeller would be sent Williams to re-inforce his pitching staff. The writer also stated that the sending of these two men would work a hardship on the semi-pro games at the Vaughn St. grounds, particularly in Webb leaving the Meier Frank team. Webb at this time and has for the past two seasons been with the Lents Giants and that is where he gets his pay check. He together with Boland and Freeman were simply loaned to the Meier and Frank team and any time Webb goes to Ballard Mr. McCredie will have to consult Manager Forte. Don't forget this.

Several people starved to death in New York City lately on account of the high prices for food. In the meantime the richest man in the world goes down to his office at 26 Broadway daily and sees all this suffering without any expression of pity and he claims to be a Christian. We don't want more libraries, churches or colleges. We want a better chance to live.

Sister's Beau

When sister's beau comes Sunday nights We always turn on all the lights, And Pa and Ma and Sis and me We entertain the company. He sits across the room from Sis Like..... this

Our bedtime's nine o'clock, you know, (I just pretend, but do not go). The lights they seem too strong for him, And so they turn 'em awful dim. And he sits on the couch with Sis Likethis.

And when they think we're all asleep Their talking stops—(I take a peep)— And no matter what the temperature— I don't see how they can endure— He's sitting there, and so is Sis, L i t h i k i e s

When he and Sis part at the door It seems to part it's "never more;" It's first "good-bye," and then "good night;" At last he turns out the dim hall light, And long he stands—and so is Sis, L i t h i k i e s

—Washington Post.

Frau Schmidt—I understand that you intend to have your little boy become an artist. How will you get him started? Frau Klein—The first thing will be to have him wear his hair long. All the rest will naturally follow.



Photo by American Press Association. French Artillery In Action

The artillery of France is one of the most efficient branches in the nation's army. The gunners are well drilled, and the guns are of the latest type. Field practice has always been insisted on by officials, and the result has been the high standard of efficiency that has been established. In the picture is shown the latest type of guns in action.

EARLY MORNING FIRE DESTROYS GOOD HOUSE

About a week ago C. E. Kennedy rented a six room house on Beach street belonging to D. L. Filley to Wm. Stewart. Stewart fitted the house up with furniture and repainted it inside, put on new paper, and oiled the floors. Incidentally, he remarked that he was preparing to get married. He was next seen at the time of the fire, dancing around in an abbreviated shirt. The fire broke out about 3:30 Sunday morning and the house and furniture were completely destroyed. Along at the first of the fire some of the neighbors saw Stewart in his half dressed condition and suggested to him he'd be run in if he stayed around in that condition. He seems to have suddenly realized his shortage in clothes and disappeared instantly, and has not been seen since in these parts. Everything in and about the house apparently was lost. There was some insurance on the building. About the only way to account for the fire is to suppose that it started from oiled rags used about the work that was being done.

Wm. Hassinger Passes Away

William Hassinger, 78 years of age died last Thursday of kidney trouble. He lived with his son-in-law, W. H. Kickenapp, and daughter on the Spring farm, about a mile out east of Lents. The funeral was held Friday the 28th at 2 p. m. at Kenworthy's, Rev. W. Boyd Moore officiating. He was a retired farmer. His wife and two daughters, Mrs. Kickenapp and Mrs. E. L. Revere, of Spirit Lake, Idaho, survive him.

O. R. Johnson Loses Daughter.

Little Bernice Johnson, fourteen months old child of O. R. Johnson, who lost his wife by tuberculosis a few weeks ago, was buried Thursday. The death was due to tubercular meningitis. She had been living at the home of Rev. Carlson, 5716, E. 41st, S. E. Mr. Carlson conducted the funeral at Kenworthy's.

Should Work Both Ways

An English nobleman was defending the hereditary nobility, and said: "Is it not right that, in order to hand down to posterity the virtues of those who have been eminent for their services to the country, their descendants should enjoy the honors conferred on them as a reward for such services?"

"By the same rule," chimed in the late Henry Labouchere, "if a man is hanged for his misdeeds, all his posterity should be hanged too."

But when these Americans who are new in Europe do get home, just think of the stories they will have to tell. And how they will revel in telling them.

Even the militants couldn't have brought about a greater smash than the one in Europe.

You haven't heard of any of the Russians in this country trying to get back home, have you?

With both a vast supply of grain and a demand for it in sight, the calamity prophet cannot expect a very sympathetic audience.

In addition to numerous other good reasons for holding the French Ambassador up for \$900, that Sherman Major probably needed the money.

SHIFTING THE BURDEN OF TAXATION

(Editorial From Daily Engine Guard.)

Anything which looks like getting something for nothing is usually attractive to the voter and unless the people of this state study the proposed \$1500 taxation amendment the measure will carry at the polls in November and the burden of taxation will be shifted from the large cities to the farms. Such an amendment would remove from the tax rolls millions of dollars worth of taxable property and increase the rate of taxation upon all taxable property within the state.

In round figures the amendment would exempt \$150,000,000 worth of property and not one acre of land would be included within this exemption.

The average home in any city in the state will not assess over \$1500. It must, therefore, be concluded that the greater portion of all city property is to be exempted.

The farmer and landowner will receive similar exemptions, but what will such exemptions amount to if they are to be compelled to bear the burden of taxation alone, excepting such assistance as they will receive from railroads and larger property owners in the cities.

Such an amendment places a penalty upon thrift and is false economic doctrine. Why should the man or woman who through industry has accumulated property in excess of the amount covered by the exemption pay for the expenses of educating the children of the man who lives next door and may have a good home, with a horse and buggy and piano thrown in, all of which the assessor holds to be worth but \$1200.

Such a proposal is manifestly unfair to a very large percentage of the people of Oregon and, if carried, would threaten to retard the development of the state because lands in the face of an unjust proportion of taxation would become less attractive to the investor and home builder whom commercial organizations are seeking to induce to come west.

The argument that the proposed amendment will enable the poor to own their own homes is overdrawn. There is no logical reason why after a man acquires property worth \$1500 he should not pay his small portion of the burden of taxation.

Proof Positive

Two Irishmen were working on the roof of a building one day when one made a misstep and fell to the ground. The other leaned over and called: "Are yez dead or alive, Mike?" "O'm alive," said Mike feebly. "Sure you're such a liar O'don't know whether to believe yez or not." "Well, then O must be dead," said Mike, "for yez would never dare to call me a liar if O' wor aloive."

The choir of the Lents Baptist Church met as the guests of Mrs. Warnock, of Third Ave., on Wednesday evening of this week.

John Eggiman has returned from a month's vacation at Bridal Bush and Mt. Jefferson. Mr. Eggiman reports that fishing is exceptionally good.

Quarterly meeting of Friends will be held in Lents Friend's church Sept., 4, 5 and 6. The Educational Conference address will be given on Saturday at 7:45 p. m. by Levi T. Pennington of Newark, Ore.

KANSANS WILL PICNIC HERE ON LABOR DAY

The Kansas Society of Oregon will have a picnic in Lents, on the grounds of the editor of the Herald, six blocks north of the station, at 2:30 p. m. next Monday afternoon. That being Labor Day, a legal holiday, it is probable that every ex-Kansan in Portland will be at liberty to attend. While the picnic will be under the direction of the Kansas Society, all ex-Kansans will be welcome. The time will be mostly given over to social intercourse, but there may be some program, not yet ready for announcement.

The society invites all Kansans in the county to put in their appearances at this picnic, bringing well filled baskets.

NEW LIBRARY IS NOW READY FOR OCCUPANCY

The new building for the Lents Library is about ready for use and the Library will be transferred and ready for opening in the new location on Tuesday next. The building is located at the corner of Foster Road and First Ave. The public will be admitted at one-thirty. Some one from the main library will entertain the children in story telling and the room will continue open through the day as usual.

The Board of State Fair Directors believing that it can give a number of boys who are thoroughly interested in agriculture and who might otherwise not attend the State Fair which opens September 28, 1914, an opportunity to see and to learn has inaugurated the Farm Boys' Camp and will give two boys from each county a week of observation and instruction. A regular program has been outlined and each day the boys will be taken on a tour of the State Fair at the expense of the Board of Directors. Well directed tours of the grounds will be of far more advantage to the boys than an aimless wandering from building to building. Master of the State Grange Spence will give his services. Also N. C. Maris, field director of the Oregon Agricultural College, while E. F. Carlson, superintendent of the Industrial Department, will give of his entire time.

John Ryberg Dies

The funeral of John L. Ryberg of 82nd St. and McKenzie Ave., about a mile south of Grays Crossing occurred Wednesday at 2 p. m. Mr. Ryberg was a native of Sweden, 58 years of age. His death was due to apoplexy. He leaves a wife and one son. The funeral was held at Kenworthy's and the burial was at Mt. Scott.

Secretary Frank Meredith of the Board of State Fair Directors advises the general public that advance prize lists or premium lists will be mailed free to any person requesting a copy. Address Frank Meredith, Secretary Oregon State Fair, Salem, Oregon.

A Total Stranger To Her

"I came, sir, in answer to your advertisement in last night's paper. You said you wanted to employ a man who was a total stranger to fear."

"Are you a brave man?"

"I am sir. I have given proof of my courage in many parts of the world."

"Yes?"

"I have faced bullets in Mexico and machetes in Cuba."

"Good!"

"I helped to defend the missionaries against the Boxers, and I was present at the siege of Port Arthur."

"Fine."

"I have fought the infuriated walrus of Baffin bay and the maddened bull-elephants of Central Africa, as well as the bull-moose of Maine, and I went through an Armenian massacre without losing my nerve."

"You seem to be the man I want. Would you be willing to go out on a field in front of 20,000 fair-minded, sport-loving Americans and umpire a baseball game honestly, deciding against the home team when necessary?"

"So that's the job, is it? Well, I don't want it," replied the man of courage, and broke into a cold perspiration and a run for the door simultaneously. —Newark News.

If some of us could make as much money as Sam Blythe and Jack London by quitting drink, and then writing about it, we'd be able to load up every night.

MONSTER PETITION GOES TO COUNCIL

Petition of Over a Thousand Names Presented to City Council, Asking for Park Improvement and Swimming Pool at Lents Playgrounds.

What is undoubtedly the largest petition that ever went up from the entire Mt. Scott District, or any part of it, was presented to the City Council on Thursday morning, Sept. 3. Fully 1000 names, all property holders, were upon it and it was enough to make them sit up and take notice. The petition has been in preparation for several weeks, and has been handled by officers and members of the Lents Parent Teachers Club. Quite a number of the older boys and girls have given assistance but the brunt of the work has been done by the women.

The proposition is to convert the gravel pit that occupies so large a part of the playground, into a swimming pool. This would not be such a stupendous task either. All the material for the walls could be taken out of the pit. The gravel for the building might all be taken from the pit without any trouble and very little moving. Much of it is so clean that it would need no washing. A little smoothing down and filling in at the back end of the pit would be all that is necessary and then set the walls in, bank them up with dirt to the second story level. A good auditorium would easily cover the swimmingpool, and an unsightly hole would become an object of convenience and great practical value. This was all worked out a year ago but the action of the people in voting down park appropriations held it up for the time being.

It is to be hoped that all this will be changed now.

A committee consisting of Mrs. Otto Katzky, Mrs. Mamie Cox, Mrs. Murray and Mr. Darnall and Dr. Sells waited on Mr. Brewster, presenting the petition and urging the location of the swimming pool. The Commissioner met them cordially and expressed a desire to meet with the Committee's wishes, but owing to the demands that were being made from so many other parts of the city, would promise nothing definite at this time. He thought at the very least, about \$2500 would be spent at Lents next year for improvements.

LENTS GRANGE HOLDS ALL DAY PICNIC

Saturday was celebrated by members of Lents Grange, numerous visitors and friends, as being the 10th anniversary of the founding of Lents Grange. Though the grange really was not organized till toward the spring of 1905. Then the organizer and first Master of Lents Grange, Mr. A. F. Miller, was due to have a birthday so the two events were considered sufficient excuse for a diversion. Dinner was served at noon and following that, T. J. Krender, in charge of the program introduced a number of speakers. Mr. Miller was called upon first. Following him came Rev. C. E. Cline of Portland, H. A. Darnell, C. T. Dickinson, Mrs. H. L. Vail, W. H. H. Dufur, J. H. Henderson, H. W. Shannah, Mrs. C. T. Dickinson, Wilson Benefield, H. A. Lewis, Mrs. Darnell, Mrs. Otto Katzky and others. All of them had good things to say of M. Miller and the grange. In fact so many nice things were said concerning Mr. Miller that his wife became alarmed lest he become overly inflated with ego and suggested further boquets be withheld.

Lents grange has grown to be one of the largest in the state, having a membership of over 200. It contains many of the best families around Lents and in the way of promoting educational standards among its membership ranks among the best.

The Beaver Male chorus, of the Lents M. E. church, were hosts at an elaborate dinner last Wednesday evening, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Frost. The tables were set on the lawn, and presented a most appetizing appearance. The chorus consists of: Messers R. A. Repp, G. Berget, 1st Tenor; Charles and Kenneth Wilson, 2nd tenor; Renselaw Wilkinson, Fay Smith, Baritone; Fred Frost, Wilford Hollingworth, Mr. Klock, Bass. Their guests were: Mrs. R. A. Repp, Mrs. Berget, Mrs. Frost, Mrs. Wilkinson, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Hollingworth, Mrs. Klock, Miss Ruth Howe, Miss Lona Crandall, Miss Laura Wilbanks, Miss Hilda Turple and Miss Raie Stark.