

Crook County Journal.
 PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY
 THE JOURNAL PUBLISHING CO.
 COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.
 The Journal is entered at the postoffice at
 Prineville, Ore., for transmission through the
 U. S. mail as second class matter.
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 IN ADVANCE
 ONE YEAR \$1.20
 SIX MONTHS .75
 THREE MONTHS .40
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1903.
 CROOK COUNTY WOULD PRO-
 FIT BY ANOTHER TAX
 LAW.

The time is fast approaching when an effective law will be passed by the state legislature to stop once and for all the very virulent form of tax dodging which at present is in vogue in every portion of Oregon. This law will probably be nothing more or less than an act to provide for the publication of assessment rolls, giving publicity to every man's sworn affidavit when he lists property for taxation. Once the light of day is shed on this matter, in the same manner that the law provides for publicity in compelling accounts against the various counties to be published by the newspapers, and a curative measure for this immense evil of shrinking from an assessor, will have been placed on the statutes. Such a law is needed and needed badly.

It is safe to assert that not one county in the state of Oregon has more than half its property assessed, and it is a notorious fact that over FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF PROPERTY IN CROOK COUNTY ALONE HAVE ESCAPED THE ASSESSOR'S BOOKS THIS YEAR. The truth of this astounding statement may be readily verified by a moment's study of the tax roll now in the hands of the sheriff. The assessor is not entirely to be blamed in the matter. He has raised the assessment materially over that of last year, but the tax payers have willfully perjured themselves to that amount in a successful effort to escape taxation.

Publicity, you say, would not remedy this evil. In answer, let any person who knows himself, as others know him, to be possessed of five times the amount he has sworn himself to be worth—let that person's name and the amount of his assessment fall under the scrutinizing and critical eye of the public, and the year following will see an appreciable increase in the value of his property. And more than that, it means if every piece of property in the county, and all the property, is assessed at its true valuation, each individual tax payer is paying less in proportion than he is paying now. There will be twice the amount of property upon which taxes will be paid and the rate as a natural consequence will be lower.

The legislature of 1891 passed a law requiring publicity in the allowance of bills against counties.

All bills presented to or allowed by a county, excepting where the charges are fixed by law, are published in a leading newspaper of such county. No one denies the wisdom and policy embodied in this measure, and counties all over the state, Crook county among them, point with no little pride at the curtailed expense and freedom from indebtedness. That law put a quietus on grafters. It effectually damped the filing of exorbitant bills in all lines, and has eradicated the listing of questionable accounts for personal motives. The small expense incurred in publication is saved a hundred times over every year.

A tax law, providing for the same method of publicity in assessments, would work in the same applicable manner as this county measure, recognized in every section as an efficient addition to clean and wholesome government. A mere reference to Crook county's tax roll for this year will convince the most skeptical that an effectual and drastic course should be taken against this wide-spread indifference to truthfulness and its immediate bearing on the public welfare. The most cursory observer of public records cannot fail to be stricken with consternation and despair by a moment's perusal of this county's tax list and the astounding poverty which it discloses.

"Conscience makes cowards of us all," but was William when he spoke those words must surely have eliminated from his thoughts the tax payer who takes his oath to an affidavit of assessment. At least in Crook county's court house there are no indications of cowardice, principally owing to the fact that evidence of there being any conscience is entirely lacking.

WESTWARD, HO!

The movement to the west gives evidence of being ten fold greater next year than that of any previous season. The congested population in the east, from present indications, will experience a notable migration to the district west of the Rockies, and more particularly, to that territory lying between the Pacific coast and the eastern Idaho line.

Oregon, of course, will receive her share of this influx, and it is to be expected that this state will welcome to its congenial climate and diversified industries thousands of new inhabitants. An abundant amount of advertising has had its weight, and added to this may be mentioned the development of its hitherto dormant resources which will demand and encourage in the future an extra share of labor in their maintenance.

The great and almost boundless fields lying east of the Cascades are, practically speaking, still in their infancy—undeveloped, unprospected and waiting for the hand of thrift to awaken within them a myriad of wealth producing possibilities. The meager start which has been made along some lines is only such as passage in the future wholly within the control of a growing and thrifty population

and dependant upon an additional increase to its present numbers.

That this increase will come has already been assured by the railroads and the activity manifested by certain branches of commerce whose life and breath swing pendulum-like in the forcible atmosphere of progressive conditions. Interior Oregon as yet sees only in a kaleidoscopic way the advances to be made in the next few years, yet it will probably be the first district in the state to feel the powerful arm of energy as it thrusts its way into new and undeveloped regions. Some of the state's greatest enterprises are centered here; some of its wealthiest industries, both old and new, are found west of the Cascades in a region remote from transportation facilities.

But the time is coming when all this will be changed. New people and many of them will demand progressive conditions, and the Oregon of the future is a state in which all sections shall be possessed of equally encouraging and conducive ways and means. To that end more than any other will Oregon feel the exhilarating influence of a rapidly growing population, and promises for the new year are worthy, therefore, of more than passing attention. In their fulfillment lies the destiny of one of the greatest states in the Union.

A GOOD CITY ADMINISTRATION TO BE EXPECTED

It is believed that the new mayor and councilmen, including the one who has been honored with a re-election, will meet the expectations of the people in giving to this city a clean and wholesome government. If the aldermanic body fails in fulfilling the trust placed in them then the city will still be the loser.

Mr. Wurzweiler bears the name of being a successful and far seeing business man, and it is to be expected that he will carry his commercial acumen into the office which he will fill, and just a portion of it into the actions of the body over which he will preside. Of the other officers elected practically the same thing can be said. The old members of the council are good enough as they are, and a strict business administration may be looked forward to.

The city itself is in need of many things, and the improvements to be made, it is safe to say, will be engineered with an eye to economy. The moral condition of the town is a matter which was entirely overlooked and escaped the attention of the retiring mayor and councilmen. It is to be hoped that the new head of the city's affairs will see to it that some radical changes are made, with the sole purpose in view of bettering the influences brought to bear upon the younger generation—quick to grasp and understand the contaminating forces which at present assail them. Changes such as these are not for those whose characters and walks in life have long since been formed, but for those who as yet are too young to appreciate the consequences and direful results of wrongful living. The new mayor

is looked to as a man who will bring about some desired changes. Time alone will verify or refute the expectations.

Saturday's Portland Telegram contains an editorial briefly relating the career of General Leonard Wood. It states that Wood was highly commended by General Lawton for his strenuous campaign against Geronimo, the Apache chief. Such a display of ignorance by a paper as mighty as the Telegram would vomit a buzzard. General Wood was at the time a student in a medical college and never had a command, until the outbreak of the Spanish American war.

A. Coon left for the Prineville country to transact some business matters.—(Grass Valley Herald.)

One got here on yesterday's stage but we don't know whether it is the right one or not.

The discovery of ten million dollars in filthy lucre belonging to the late Pope Leo XIII, would indicate that his Holiness surely had no fear of dying in the poor house.

Additional Locals

J. H. Zevilly and wife, of Upper Oshoco, were Prineville visitors Monday.

C. A. Laelling and wife, of Post, were registered at the Poinceter hotel Monday.

T. F. Ferguson was a business visitor the first of the week from his ranch on Bear creek.

Stroud & Roller, the enterprising young painters, have finished painting the Crain school house.

Ed. Brock, of Deschutes, was in the city Tuesday. He left Wednesday for different points in the east.

Mrs. C. M. Elkins is seriously ill at her home in this city. Her many friends hope for a speedy recovery.

President Strange of the Glee Club announces that the next meeting of the organization will be held at the home of Mrs. Will King on Tuesday evening, Dec. 23, at 8 o'clock.

Preparations are being made for the erection of a three-story hotel in the town of Lytle, J. T.

Taggart, who formerly owned a large hotel in Penitentiary, Minn., has selected his building site and work on the new structure will begin soon after the first of the year. The Reed & Studd Lumber company is at work now turning out the lumber for the building.

Carnation chapter No. 44 O. E. S. held its annual meeting in Masonic hall last week and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Mrs. Ollie Elkins, Worthy Matron; T. M. Baldwin, Worthy Patron; Mrs. Blanche Michel, Associate Matron; Mrs. May J. Wible, Secretary; J. W. Boone, Treasurer; Mrs. America Boone, Conductor; Mrs. Ella Crain, Associate Conductor.

The officers of the Athletic Club make the following announcement: Owing to the generosity of the Electric Light company in putting lights in the club's building when the capacity of the power house was already taxed to its limit, it is respectfully requested of those attending events at the club house that they turn off the lights in their residences when leaving. If this course is adopted the hall in the Athletic building will be better lighted.

One of the neatest Christmas displays in the city is the miniature electric light plant on exhibition in the window of A. H. Lippman's furniture store. There the workings of an entire system are reproduced in infant size. The little steam engine is connected with the dynamo and wires from the latter are strung along on poles for lighting purposes. A sixteen candle power lamp is kept burning with the electricity generated from the dynamo.

Holiday Games FREE
 Inside each pound package of **Lion Coffee** will be found a FREE game. 60 different games. All new. At Your Grocer's.

A. H. LIPPMAN & CO.
 Manufacturers of and Dealers in...
 FURNITURE, COFFINS and CASKETS
 CARPETS, STOVES, PAINTS and OILS
 Lumber and all Kinds of Building Material
 For CASH Only

O'Neil Bros.
OYSTER HOUSE
 J. R. HELFRICH, Manager
Good Meals and Rooms
 Miller Building, Prineville, Oregon
 FISH AND GAME IN SEASON
 BREAD AND PIES FOR THE TRADE
 SPECIAL RATES TO BOARDERS

N. A. Tye and Brothers
 We carry A full line of
Gents' Furnishings
 We Have A Full Line of Men's, Ladies', Girls' and Babies' Shoes.
 We Have just received
Two Tons of Candy and Nuts
 N. A. TYE and BROS., Merchants

Blacksmithing That Pleases
 Is The Kind You Get at
J. H. WIGLE'S
 (Successor to)
CORNETT & ELKINS'S
 A Stock of Farm Machinery always on hand

You will find
 BICYCLES of all good makes
AT SHIPP'S
 Ramblers, Imperials, Ideals, and many others. A good line of Bicycle Sundries AT SHIPP'S.

WATTS MARBLE AND GRANITE WORKS
 Watts & Baker, Props.
 Marble and Granite Monuments
 All Kinds of Stone Work
 FIRST CLASS WORK AT LOWEST PRICES
 Second Street, The Dalles, Oregon

Prineville-Shaniko Stage Line
 Daily Between Prineville and Shaniko
 SCHEDULE
 Leaves Shaniko, 6 p. m. Arrives at Prineville 6 a. m.
 Leaves Prineville 1 p. m. Arrives at Shaniko 1 a. m.
 First Class Accommodations

BUY YOUR MILLINERY
 ..and..
LADIES FURNISHINGS
 :: AT ::
MRS. ED. BRADFORD'S
 Successor to Mrs. Susie Slayton
 Up-to-date Millinery at less than city prices.
 Hair Dressing Parlors in connection.

GRAND BALL
 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
Prineville Amateur Athletic Club
 AT THE
P. A. A. C's. New Building
 CHRISTMAS NIGHT December 25th, 1903
 NEW YEARS NIGHT January 1st, 1904
 Finest Ball Room in Eastern Oregon

Just Arrived
A. E. NATHAN & Co's
Custom Made Clothing
 AT
J. F. MORRIS'S
 The Best Wearing and Fitting Line of
GENT'S CLOTHING
 Ever Brought to Prineville. STRICTLY UP-TO-DATE
 ALL PRICES AND SIZES NEW AND NOBBY
 FALL and WINTER
DRY GOODS MILLINERY GROCERIES
 Don't Forget the Special Sale on Men's and Boys' Clothing. Greatly Reduced Prices.

THE BEE HIVE
 THE PLACE TO SAVE MONEY
We'll be there on time
 We're not going to disappoint the throngs of friends and customers who have learned to expect our Xmas displays to be the biggest and best. This year they will be bigger and better than ever. You have our word for that.
 Here are a few faint showings of what we have
TOYS TOYS TOYS
 We have as large an assortment as ever came to Prineville to select from.
 ALBUMS EXPRESS WAGONS
 BOOKS DOLL BUGGIES
 TOILET CASES DOLLS
 GAMES ROCKEY HORSES
The Best Line of Candies in Town
 All Kinds of Fresh Fruits and Nuts
 Hoping to receive your Xmas orders, we are
 Yours respectfully,
MICHEL & CO.