

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

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BILL NUMBERS 338 AND 339, if enacted, would not consolidate the corporation and insurance departments. Its only effect would be to substitute for the corporation commissioner a deputy insurance commissioner.

The bill creates the new office of state fire marshal. The legislatures of 1909 and 1911 refused to enact such a law because of the added expense to the taxpayers of the state.

Oregon has today the most effectively administered blue sky law in the United States. Amended by the coming legislature in some slight administrative particulars it will possess the model blue sky law of the United States.

If a person dealing with any big concern, disgruntled at the official action of the superintendent, were to go to the stockholders and ask them to discharge the superintendent and give his duties to some other officer, irrespective of efficiency, administrative harmony or operative cost, the stockholders would think that man was either foolish or a knave.

The corporation department is the biggest money maker in the state government. Its income from June 3, 1913, to June 30, 1914, inclusive, was \$310,613.09.

There is to be any consolidation of departments, it should be upon a basis of increased efficiency and economy.

TO THE SOUTHERN COTTON GROWER, forced by the war to sell his product at a price below cost of production, ruin seems imminent. Losses from such forced sales will not be limited to one section.

To meet this situation the "buy a bale of cotton movement" was started. The Washington society women are to have a fashion show of costumes made of cotton goods.

Women who have been using imported fabrics will find these goods costing higher this year than ever. If they would each buy a dress or two of some form of cotton material, in place of foreign made textiles, a home demand would be created that would go far to relieve the situation.

Cotton is often looked at as a cheap material, an adulterant. It is the least expensive of all the great fabrics. Yet it is capable of infinite beauty of treatment.

As a substitute for wool clothing, cotton is considered to lack warmth. Yet the fact that it is so very largely used in place of wool shows the adaptability of the material.

The worst of the cotton crisis could be worked off at home, without injuring home industries that produce other fabrics, simply by buying cotton products instead of imported textiles. The American people must stand together in this period of unprecedented strain.

IN THE CONSOLIDATION of the Willamette Pulp & Paper company and the Crown-Columbia Paper company into the Crown-Willamette Pulp & Paper company, it is considered highly probable that Oregon City and West Linn will benefit greatly.

Just what the owners of the big mills will do is not yet certain or at least has not yet been announced. All this is known concerning their

plans is vague and uncertain. The people of Oregon City are waiting to learn what step the new corporation will take toward the policy and management of the mills. It is understood that those now in charge will be retained although no assurance of this has been received here.

Oregon City and West Linn as well as the mills would suffer in case R. T. McBain, present mill manager, were transferred. Under his careful and progressive management, the mills of the Willamette company during the last few years have seen many changes.

But Mr. McBain's beneficial influence extends far beyond the mills. Several years ago he was elected president of the Commercial club and at the end of his first term he was re-elected without a vote cast for another man, a thing which had never been done before.

The paper mills here, the people of Oregon City and West Linn, the library association, the Commercial club, will all suffer if Mr. McBain is taken from his post here or if the wonderful organization which he has built up in the mills is destroyed.

NEW TAX CODE, sane, complete and progressive, is needed by this state of Oregon as much as such as industries, railroads and more people. Some change is sure to come in our tax laws as a result of the present unrest and such measures as the single-tax, graduated tax, and other plans of taxation are being put forward.

The regulation and levying of taxes is among the most important function of government. To levy it fairly is the aim of every honest tax measure, but the field presents many chances for personal greed and dishonesty.

In order that the condition of the state's taxes may be carefully studied a bill will be voted on at the next election creating a tax commission. This body will draft a proposed tax law which will be submitted to the legislature after carefully studying all proposed remedies and the condition of the state now.

GREAT MANY CITIES and towns have been holding garden competitions the past summer. Newspaper exchanges bring many reports of prizes awarded in these contests. It is often noted that children have won out in these contests who never stood well in their book work in school.

Formerly the boy who could not learn lessons readily was set down as a blockhead. Yet the boy who does not take easily to books is often of speech in the ordinary matters of daily life, tactful in what he says, with a gift for leadership and doing things.

In the old fashioned school, the boy who was dull at his books was prodded and spurred along the thorny path which he was never fitted to travel. Somehow he never could see things through the printed page.

Books are the record of the world's wisdom, but their use should not be over emphasized. Too much reading and study makes the boy over-much of a spectator. His energy is satisfied by the thrill of reading how other boys do things.

Every school should have some outlet for the children who are slow at books. Home and school gardens are one of the most useful of these outlets. Dressmaking and cooking classes teach an art that lies at the foundation of home economy, and which the average mother fails to import.

THE FOLLY OF CHANGING that which is already good for something which may prove better and would probably prove worse, is plain to all. An experiment at its best, particularly in the affairs of government, is nothing more nor less than guess-work.

The bill abolishing the desert land board and re-organizing certain other state offices is nothing more than an experiment. Its backers say that under their plan taxes will be lowered and the affairs of public lands and water rights, highly important in the development of the state, will be managed as well as at present.

ONE OF THE INCIDENTS of the war situation is the difficulty American factories are finding in securing dye stuffs. The result will be an effort to make dyes in this country. Probably there will be some improvement in this very important branch of textile industry.

It is remarkable what poor work in the use of imported dye stuffs, and in the colors of imported goods, has been accepted in the past. Every man realizes how badly the average negligee shirt holds its color.

A manufacturer of textiles was asked why he did not take more pains to turn out fast colors. He laughed at the question, and admitted that it would cost but a trifling fraction of a cent a yard more to use colors that would be practically fast.

The demand for better coloring of textiles has had much to do with the spread of recent years of the arts and crafts movement. These workers dug up the dye books of their grandmothers, when fabrics were often woven and colored at home, and when material was made to wear.

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In so far as American mills under present war conditions are experimenting with new dyes, they will find that firm colors will be appreciated by a growing number of people.

BREAKISH TAX LAWS are the predominating feature of the coming election. The \$1,500 tax exemption and the graduated extra tax amendment are fair representatives of the class. Every one is proposed by some more or less radical person, bent on thrusting on the people of the state some half-Socialistic scheme which they believe will lighten the burdens of a suffering people and bring the state of Oregon nearer to a blissful heaven of never-ending delight.

This graduated tax amendment is only typical of the general class of idle day dreams these persons have. It is a bill which is thrust forth to lighten the tax on the poor and increase the burden on the rich. It is not unusual to note that this measure, like others in its class, has never been given a trial in this country and there is nothing back of it except the vague arguments of the dreamers who foster it.

FOR PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME in its 48 years of existence, the Enterprise finds it is obliged to support a Democratic nominee when there is a Republican in the field who has secured his nomination at the regular primary election.

F. M. Hurlbut received the Republican nomination for joint-representative from Clackamas and Multnomah counties at the primaries. An investigation into his past by the Republican central committees of both counties showed that he has a criminal court record, and resulted in a request that he resign and allow some man to receive the Republican nomination who could stand the most rigid examination.

The action of the joint-central committees shows their determination to put before the voters at the coming election a clean ticket. The organization will not support any man who cannot stand up before the electors with a clean record.

FORUM OF THE PEOPLE

The \$1500 Exemption Amendment. OREGON CITY, Oct. 2.—(Editor of the Enterprise)—Notice in the election pamphlet that is now being circulated, that the legal voters will be called upon to vote for or against a constitutional amendment which the single taxers are calling a home exemption of \$1500.

First: If I own a lot assessed at \$600, and a house thereon assessed at \$300, and furniture and household effects assessed at \$100, making a total of \$1000 for house and household effects how much exemption will I get on my assessment under this \$1500 exemption law if enacted?

Second: If I purchase 30 acres of unimproved land and erect a small cottage thereon and the unimproved land is assessed at \$600, and my improvements and personal property at \$300, how much exemption would I be entitled to under the \$1500 exemption law?

Third: If a man owns a stock of goods and is engaged in the mercantile business and his stock of goods in his store is assessed at \$1500, will the merchant get the full \$1500 exemption?

Fourth: If a man owns 30 acres of land that was formerly prairie land and is in cultivation, and is assessed at \$600, and an adjoining owner owns 30 acres of brush land that is just starting to improve, and this brush land is assessed as unimproved land, would the man with the prairie land who is receiving annual crops therefrom have a greater exemption under this proposed law than the adjoining owner with the unimproved land?

Fifth: If a man owned \$1500 in personal property or less and the \$1500 exemption would wipe out his assessment, would he be disqualified under the law from sitting as a juror in a trial of a case in our civil or criminal courts?

Please answer the above questions fully so that the answers can be easily understood in order that I can distinguish whether this proposed \$1500 exemption is a home exemption or whether it is simply a single tax measure. A READER.

First: The exemption would be \$400. But if the assessor should find that part of the \$600 was for other improvements than the house, the exemption would be increased that much. The assessed value of the lot for taxation would be what it would have been if it had not been improved.

Second: \$300 only. The \$800 value would be taxed. Third: Probably no exemption at all. But if the merchant were an owner of a dwelling house or a part owner of one, and the value of his personal property and improvements "on, in and under" the premises would be equal to \$1500, he probably would be allowed to make up the \$1500 out of his merchandise at his place of business.

Fourth: The two 30 acre tracts would be assessed as if there had been nothing done in the way of improvements with either of them. The owner of the brush land would get no exemption until he would have a dwelling house, and then only on his house, personal property and improvements if any. The owner of the improved 30 acres, if he had a dwelling house would be entitled to an exemption of \$1500 on his personal property and improvements on the 30 acres. If his wife were part owner they would be entitled to an exemption of \$3000. The taxes each would pay would be on the wild or unimproved value of their lands and the value of personal property and improvements in excess of the exemption.

Fifth: No. But he may not be selected or placed on the jury list unless he has property enough to be placed on the assessment roll. See sections 990 and 995 of the code.

An Answer From W. S. U'Ren OREGON CITY, Ore., Oct. 1, 1914.—(Messrs. C. E. Spence, C. L. Shaw, and B. G. Leedy, Executive Committee, State Grange)—Gentlemen: Your open letter to the candidates for governor I found on my return from a campaign trip in eastern Oregon. I am an elected governor I will vote any bill carrying the "emergency clause," unless I believe its immediate operation is urgently necessary to preserve either the public peace, or public health or public safety of the people of Oregon.

As to measures that have been enacted by the voters, I shall oppose any changes except those that are clearly intended to aid the operation of the bill and make it more effective.

As to measures rejected by the voters, I shall oppose their enactment by the legislature, and use the veto power on such measures as necessary. Sincerely yours, W. S. U'REN.

Farmers Oppose Amendment. PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 3, 1914.—(Editor of the Enterprise)—The sentiment of the farmers throughout the state seems to be against the \$1500 exemption amendment, and the chances are that the destructive measures will be that the farmers will only go to the polls in November and vote against it. There are so many indifferent men and women that there is still grave danger that the measure will carry by a minority plurality.

In Clackamas county in the 1912 election, when the single tax had a head presentation, and people knew what it was, there were 1552 registered voters who did not vote on the question at all.

Now when the baby has been turned around and given a breach presentation, it is hoped by Messrs. U'Ren, Cridge, et al, that it will be more charming to the voters and that a majority will be willing that it shall be born.

If the farmers can be got out to vote on this question there is a good prospect of its defeat. If a voter, either man or woman, neglects to register and vote in protection of his own rights and property, he should do so in justice to his neighbor and friend. It is his duty as much as to take up arms in defense of his country.

The time will soon come, if it is not already here, when a man who fails to vote on the questions, forced upon him by the initiative, will be looked upon with contempt.

The state is entitled to his vote and he will be, in some sense, not an unimportant sense, a traitor to his country if he does not lend his aid in the only manner he can under our system of government.

Be sure to vote and vote 327 X No for that is the only way you can protect yourself from extraordinary and ever increasing taxes on your lauds. E. F. RILEY.

How the Exemption Would Work. PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 2.—(Editor of the Enterprise)—As an illustration of how the \$1500 exemption amendment would work, I want to instance the case of three or four farmers, it being understood that a man and his wife can have \$3000.00 exemption by owning the land together, each an undivided one-half. (See explanation by Mr. U'Ren and others in the voters' pamphlet at page 38.)

A. and his wife have an 80-acre farm, 40 acres of which is well improved being cleared and fenced and having a dwelling house and other buildings. The improvements and all the personal property would be assessed at a little less than \$3000.00, and would be all exempt.

B. and his wife have also an 80-acre farm upon which the personal property and improvements do not exceed \$1000.00, he being a beginner.

C. and his wife own and live on a ten acre farm well improved and with the improvements and personal property equal to A's, nearly \$3000.00.

D. and his wife have 160 acres of some kind of land as the others. They have an ambition to make a nice 160 acre farm and are working hard to that end and are contenting themselves with less personal property for their comfort and convenience.

Still another neighbor, E. and his wife have but two acres, but they have personal property and improvements thereon to value of \$3000.00, all exempt.

Now if the exemption amendment is passed, how will it be with these men about their taxes. The poor man, B. and his wife, will have to pay as much taxes as A., eight times as much as C. and 40 times as much as E. and 1 1/2 times as much as D. and yet A. C. and E.

will have three times as much property needing protection. Owing to the vast amount of personal property and improvements exempted from the taxes on the wild value of the land will be "awfully high" and it will soon find that the increase of his taxes will more than equal his exemption.

If A., B., C. and E. all vote for the amendment, A., C. and E. will be getting the part of rascals, while B. will be a fool.

But how will it be with D. and his wife with their 160 acres. They would have to pay twice as much taxes as B. 16 times as much as C. and 16 times as much as E.

This would be too heavy and he would want to sell parts of his land, but who would buy land with such a heavy lien and who would loan him any money on the land?

Beginning to get his eyes open to the real danger of the situation he begins to pay the taxes. They become a heavy and the land is sold, and he sells ripens into a title and A. and C. become really tenants of the government and the condition hereof would have come to pass, no taxes would be paid and the burden would fall upon others.

A. and his wife lose their ambition to make a good home. They are unable to hire men to help them and the improvements go to wreck. They also the farm and wish they were anywhere else than in Oregon.

BRIDE OF 4 MONTHS TAKES HER OWN LIFE. The body of Mrs. Gertrude C. Pusey, the wife of Henry C. Pusey, was found in the river below the mouth of the Clackamas a few minutes after midnight Thursday.

She had evidently drowned herself and Dr. M. C. Strickland, her physician, who has been treating her for a nervous disorder for some time, and who identified the remains early in the afternoon, said that Mrs. Pusey's illness had probably preceded upon her mind to the extent that she took her own life.

R. F. Hyde was with his wife in a power boat a quarter of a mile below Greenpoint at the time Mrs. Pusey waded out in the water. They noticed a person standing waist-deep in the water, but thought that it was a man hunting for something. On returning to the city they found the body floating on the surface of the river and brought it to Brown's bathhouse where Dr. Hempstead and George Lambert endeavored to restore life. The body is being held at the Holman Undertaking parlors and will probably be shipped to California for burial.

Coroner W. J. Wilson spent some time Thursday afternoon on the case and will hold an inquest today.

Mrs. Pusey is connected with the Hawley Pulp & Paper company of the city, his brother-in-law being president of the concern. He has lived in this city for the last 20 years.

Mrs. Pusey was a bride of only a few months. They were married quietly June 15, at the close of a "love-at-first-sight" romance. The marriage took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Barlow, in Oakland, Cal. The bride met last spring on the "Tour de France" and the "Monoglia" while they were on a trip to the Orient. Mrs. Pusey's maiden name was Miss Gertrude C. Finley.

JOINT ACCOUNTS. A depositor may arrange with us so that any member of the family can draw money on the presentation of the pass book; otherwise, withdrawals can be made only by the depositor in person, or upon his written order.

The Bank of Oregon City OLDEST BANK IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only cure known to the world. It acts directly on the mucous surface of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case that fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, Etc. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.