

# CRAWFORD PASSES TAX QUESTION

### Counties Subject to Charters or Acts Which Are Fundamental Law.

## LEGISLATURE MAY MOVE

### Attorney-General Says Law May Be Enacted Prescribing Mode of Procedure at Election to Pass on Exemption Problem.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—In discussing the county tax or so-called single tax amendment today Attorney-General Crawford passed on several features of it which have been puzzling the people of this and other states ever since the election. He holds that a county may declare what shall be taxed or exempted by school districts, cities or ports within its borders, subject in some instances to the charters or acts which are the fundamental law for the districts, cities or ports.

He also holds that it is possible for a county to initiate and adopt a measure regulating taxation or exemptions at the next election, even in the absence of a general statute prescribing a method of procedure. But, he states, the legislature may enact a directing statute, this statute to prescribe the mode or method of procedure at the election to pass on the question of taxation or exemptions.

### Voters-at-Large Have Voice.

The Attorney-General is of the opinion that if the voters at large should adopt a law declaring what should not be exempted, that a county could not enact a valid measure in conflict with such general statute. But, on the other hand, counties may have exclusive control over taxation and exemptions in its own boundaries, subject to any general law which may subsequently be enacted by the whole people.

In other words, it is held that the general law referred to in the amendment is to be in the nature of a directing statute prescribing the mode of procedure at such tax election and not passed by the whole people, as required, may regulate exemptions, but this clause in the amendment, the Attorney-General believes, does not restrict the people of counties from voting until such time as some general law or directing statute may be enacted.

One of the important statements given in respect to the amendment is the position taken by the Attorney-General that taxes cannot be levied so high under that amendment against any specific class of property or any specific property, such as a railroad company, as to be confiscatory. He holds that the Federal Constitution would prohibit such a procedure and make it void.

### Taxation Forms Prohibited.

Neither is it possible under the amendment, he states, for a county to levy taxes for the support of a church, labor organization, or other use not public. He calls attention to sections 5 and 30 of article 1 of the Oregon constitution, stating these sections prohibit such forms of taxation. In addition, he states the new amendment provides merely that the people may designate what shall be taxed and what shall be exempted. It, in no manner, provides for what the people shall be taxed, nor does it extend this privilege to the people of the counties, the taxes to be raised for public purposes only.

He states that it is possible some condition may arise out of this amendment which will result in the tax commission becoming ineffective and says there is some possibility of the tax commission becoming ineffectual and such a wide range in system of taxation that no proportionate distribution of the burdens of state expenditures would be possible. This condition he cites, only as a possibility of the amendment.

He says counties may go ahead and make provision as to taxation and exemptions without the necessity of any general law which will change this or they are given exclusive power to make taxation and exemptions until such time as the people of the state may enact a general law which will change this or which may restrict this power in some manner.

Mr. Crawford says the next Legislature could submit at a special election a constitutional amendment revoking or amending the county tax measure.

## TOWNSITE NEAR MEDFORD

### President of Rogue River Valley Road Buys 160 Acres.

MEDFORD, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—President Barnum, of the Rogue River Valley Railroad Company, has purchased 160 acres of land at Ruch, in the Applegate Valley, 23 miles west of Medford, and will promote a townsite. This purchase was made because of the contemplated extension of the Rogue River Valley road, which at present runs from Medford to Jacksonville, the county seat of Jackson County.

The line has been surveyed to Ruch from Jacksonville by the Oregon Southern and in the spring it is expected that the Hill line will take up the work of continuing the road from Ruch to the Coast. The line will follow Forest Creek to Ruch. The townsite purchased by Mr. Barnum is situated at the junction of the Applegate River and Forest Creek. Active work is in progress on the Rogue River Valley extension, there being a force of 25 men grading the first mile out of Jacksonville.

### Glee Club's Trip Is Big Success.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Or., Dec. 27.—Members of the University Glee Club are returning to their homes in the most successful trip ever taken into Eastern Oregon. Success crowned every feature of the trip—the theaters were packed, dancing rooms were sold, and scores after scores thronged the boys back on the stage again and again, and the programmes were carried through without a hitch. Five shows were given. Only at once place was the packed theater not in evidence at Pendleton. Hood River sold standing room, and the club was entertained at the high school while visiting in that city. At Baker, Ontario and Heppner, the houses were taxed to their capacity.

### Eugene "Drunks" Pay Penalties.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 27.—The Eugene police rounded up 14 drunks on Christmas day and night, and each was given some kind of a sentence by Police Judge Bryson today. While some of the men evidently secured their liquor from bootleggers in Eugene, others obtained it from outside points and came to Eugene to celebrate. This is a greater number of Christmas drunks than were jailed at any time on that day under the "wet" regime.

## GOVERNOR-ELECT WEST CONFESSES TO VIOLATING CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT WHEN DAUGHTER MAKES PLEA.



MISS HELEN WEST. SALEM, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Oswald West, Governor-elect, has made the admission that but one person in the state succeeded in persuading him to violate the corrupt practices act before the election and induce him to make a promise of an appointment. This person is little Helen West, his daughter, who is now in California with him.

"Papa, when you are elected Governor, I want you to make me an appointment for me. Will you promise?" urged little Miss West.

"I certainly shall," responded the candidate. "What is it?"

"I want you to promise that you will keep Matilda Ekerker in the Governor's office," and the candidate, who is now Governor-elect, promised.

Miss Ekerker is one of the stenographers in the executive offices and has always been on exceedingly friendly terms with the young woman who is soon to become the "daughter of the Capitol" and who evidently has absorbed some of her father's political sagacity.

## ACTS HELD LEGAL

### La Grande Land Office Upholds Timber Entries.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—By decision of the United States Land Office here, the Government loses the first proceeding in that class of cases in which the patent has not been issued, in the series of cases in which the Government contends that the Northwest Timber Company, of Spokane, has fraudulently acquired title to about 10,000 acres near Heppner, Or.

Patents have been issued for the other claims and suits to cancel them are pending in Federal courts. The Government charges that all the timber claimants were induced by John L. Ayers and P. B. McSwartz, of Heppner, to file their claims under an agreement made before the filing to transfer title to them or to persons named by them, that the Heppner food store Ayers and McSwartz and that S. W. Spencer, of Heppner, took up the alleged deal and completed it, through the aid of J. W. Scriber, then cashier of a La Grande bank, by furnishing entymen with the necessary money for making their proof. Mortgages and options were taken by Spencer. Scriber later sold the land to David Wilson, of Spokane, who organized the Northwest Timber Company. It was asserted.

The register and receiver, F. C. Bramwell and C. R. Eberhard, hold that the Government failed to prove any illegal agreement of any kind prior to date of filing and that, no agreement having then been made, the other acts were not illegal under the circumstances of the case.

## LAWYERS PLAN BANQUET

### Marion County Bar Will Honor Judge George Burnett.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Members of the Marion County Bar Association today made arrangements for a banquet to be tendered Judge George H. Burnett at the Marion Hotel next Friday. Judge Burnett, after serving 15 years on the Circuit bench in this district, will retire from that office January 1 to take up his duties as Justice of the Supreme Court, to which office he was elected at the last election.

The Bar Association also made arrangements for a meeting Friday morning, at which time they will discuss the new judicial amendment to determine what will be necessary in the way of taking exceptions for appeals. The new amendment providing that the Supreme Court may go into the whole record of the case, regardless of the exceptions.

## WESTERN UNION MAN SHOT

### Marshfield Hunter Accidentally Injured by Companion; Foot Lost.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Otto Schetter, manager of the local office of the Western Union, was accidentally shot today by E. L. C. Sarrin, a lawyer and Schetter's hunting companion. The crew were on a game launch returning home. Sarrin was working with his gun, which was accidentally discharged and Schetter was shot in the ankle, amputation of the foot being found necessary.

Schetter and Sarrin were close friends and frequently hunted together.

## Frank E. Strong Arrested.

CORVALLIS, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Frank E. Strong, formerly of this city, was arrested in Cottage Grove and brought to this city, charged with getting money under false pretenses. Strong was engaged in the mill business in this county, and while so engaged took a chattel mortgage from Joe Robinson, Strong afterward assigned the mortgage and note to the First National Bank of this city, but is alleged later to have collected the money. Strong waived examination and gave \$1000 bail.

Two Portland Couples to Wed. VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Caley E. Reinhardt and Eleanor W. Smith and Ferdinand R. Becker and Mrs. Mabel Widel, all of Portland, secured marriage licenses here today.

## Goods Purchased Balance of Month Charged on January Bill

# YEAR-END CLEAN UP

### 1/4 Off, 1/3 Off and 1/2 Off

## In Every One of Our 25 Sections

- All 1911 Calendars 1/2 now
- Christmas Box Stationery 1/3
- Jewelry, our novel line 1/3
- Powder Jars, glass and silver 1/4
- Hairpins, Barrettes, Combs 1/4
- Cuff Links, Pins, Pendants 1/4
- Beauty Pins, Pen-dants 1/4
- Brooches, Jeweled Combs 1/4
- Nail Buffers, Files, Clippers 1/4
- Cuticle Knives and Scissors 1/4
- Corn Knives, File Sets 1/4
- All Hand Mirrors, very big line 1/4
- Alcohol Stoves for traveling 1/4
- W'her Cottages, priced to \$3.00, at 15c
- Sterling Corkscrews now 1/2
- Water Colors and Pastels 1/4
- All Chest Protectors at 1/4
- Ankle Supporters 1/4 at

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Choice of 25 Subjects  
Beautiful Carbon Gravures in dark sepia tones, copied from works of famous masters, landscapes and figures, size 12x14, in 1-inch fumed oak frames; or choice of large line reproductions of water colors or oil in color, mounted on embossed fancy mats, inch gold frames, size 11x14, complete with glass and back. Your choice of lot..... 24c



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- Suitcases Now
- All Trunks Now
- All Bags Now
- Antique Baskets
- Antique Mirrors
- Oil Paintings
- Chamois Vests
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- All Handbags now 1/3 at
- Fancy Bags and Beaded Bags 1/3
- Novelty Imported Bags 1/3
- Ladies' Sterling Toilet Sets 1/4
- Ladies' Sterling Manicure Sets 1/4
- Gents' Sterling Toilet Sets 1/4
- Ladies' 3-piece German Silver Toilet Set \$4.97
- Combination Toilet Set, Ebony, \$30 \$19.95 set
- All other sets, all 1/4 mountings
- All Toys now selling at 1/3
- Bridge and 500 Sets now 1/2
- Ward's Books, linen paper 1/4
- Ward's Address, Calling, Etc., Lists 1/4
- Metallurgy and Outfits 1/4
- All Skins for burning 1/4
- All Wood for burning 1/4
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## RICE WILL BE CASHIER

### PENDLETON MAN TO BE WITH LUMBERMENS NATIONAL.

Banker Chosen for Portland Institution Is Cashier of First National—Experience Great.

PENDLETON, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—G. M. Rice, who has been cashier of the First National Bank of Pendleton the past six years, has been appointed cashier of the Lumbermens National Bank of Portland and will take charge of his new office soon after the first of the New Year.

Mr. Rice has just returned from Portland, where he spent several days looking over the situation before finally accepting the position with the Portland institution.

Mr. Rice learned the banking business under the tutelage of Levi Ankeny, of Walla Walla. His first position of trust was at Walla Walla, Wash., where he served as cashier of the Walla Walla National Bank for six and one-half years, during which time the deposits increased from \$20,000 to \$175,000. He was then transferred to Mr. Ankeny's bank at Dayton, Wash. During his service there the deposits increased from \$30,000 to \$600,000.

When C. B. Wade, cashier of the First National Bank of Pendleton misappropriated large sums in 1905, resulting in almost wrecking the institution, Mr. Ankeny transferred Mr. Rice from Dayton to Pendleton. The deposits in the Pendleton bank had dwindled from nearly \$1,000,000 to \$469,000 when Mr. Rice took charge of the institution. Under his direction the bank rapidly recovered from the effect of Wade's pecuniations and it now carries deposits aggregating \$1,500,000.

Succeeding Mr. Rice as cashier of the Pendleton bank is G. A. Hartman, Jr.

## RODNEY M. PROUTY IS DEAD

### Tacoma Resident, Former Portland Man, Dies at Albany, Or.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Rodney Mears Prouty, of Tacoma, Wash., died here today at the home of his brother, L. E. Prouty, with whom he was visiting. He had been in poor health for some time.

Born in Nebraska 51 years ago, Mr. Prouty had lived in the Northwest 27 years. He resided in Portland nine years, going to Tacoma two years ago. He leaves

## Philomath College Enjoys Cantata.

PHILOMATH, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—The cantata given under the auspices of the Philomath College in the college chapel was one of the rarest musical treats offered this year. The following took part: Soprano—Miss Alta Wright; Miss Grace Jolly; Miss Emma Craft; Miss Olga Wood; Miss Edna Cummings; Mrs. Gertrude Fisher; alto—Miss Edythe Sussak; Miss Edith Cummings; Miss Myrtle Pontius; Miss

Helois Phillips; tenors—W. G. Fisher, E. B. Ward, Frank Kraugh, Calvin Arpke, Victor Arpke, Harry Whitten; basses—E. H. Castle, Lyle Thornton, Nelson Rodgers, Thomas Wriggle, Paul Queen, P. O. Bonebrake; pianist, Miss Esther White.

## Secretary Merrell Improves.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Secretary Merrell, of the Chehalis Citizens' Club, is reported much improved today and his recovery is fully expected now.



## TELEPHONING TO THE COUNTRY

### THE City and the Country are bound together by the telephone line.

The farmer and his family use the rural telephone constantly, calling up each other and the market town on all sorts of matters and for all sorts of supplies and information.

City people also find the rural telephone of great advantage. A traveler from his room in the hotel talks with the farm folk miles away. Without the telephone he could not reach them.

The farmer himself may travel far and still talk home over the Long Distance Lines of the Bell System.

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Every Bell Telephone Is the Center of the System.

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Don't use a small, concentrated light over one shoulder. It puts an unequal strain on your eyes. Use a diffused, soft, mellow light that cannot flicker, that equalizes the work of the eyes, such as the Rayo Lamp gives, and avoid eye strain.

The Rayo is designed to give the best light, and it does.

It has a strong, durable shade-holder that is held firm and true. A new burner gives added strength. Made of solid brass and finished in nickel. Easy to keep polished. The Rayo is low priced, but no other lamp gives a better light at any price.

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