

END OF ARGUMENT

CONCLUSION OF STRAIN'S ABLE PRESENTATION.

Will be Used for Future Reference in Annals of Taxation in Umatilla County - Answers All Objections and Shows That O. R. & N. Assessments Are Yet Too Low.

This letter concludes the able argument of Assessor Strain in the O. R. & N. tax case. The statistics and calculations made are so thorough that this article will be used for future reference by assessors of Umatilla county, and the entire argument should find a place in every library in the state.

Is Assessed Too Low. Compared with land owned as an investment this road even now is assessed far too low. The farm lands which I have valued at \$6,000 per quarter and assessed at \$2.00 per quarter will not lease for more than \$6 per acre for each crop, or \$60 per quarter. This rental is paid once in two years which gives \$300 per quarter. It requires eight and one-third quarters of the land to yield \$4,000, the net income of one mile of railroad last year.

The Road, or the People? They should better appreciate their great benefactor, the people. In the presence of the people's sovereignty they should assume the attitude of obedience and not dictation. Gentlemen, it is up to you, it is for you to decide whether this corporation shall pay its own taxes, or whether the public shall be made to pay them.

Do you question the logic of this illustration? Can any man question it? Can any court in the land disregard it? Truth is mightier than cunning. It is mightier than money. No assessor, no board of equalization, no court can long suppress it. In a fair contest with error, it shall prevail.

If you stand by your guns, these railroad people will see the folly of their contention and accept the inevitable. For I know you and you know that any man or combination of men, however strong, moving against an irresistible force is certain either to be brushed aside or run over.

Another point that can not be overlooked is the fact that we have passed upon the assessment of the W. & C. R. R. its stock value, paid a dividend and is carried upon the company's books at \$1. It pays, however, something less than 3 per cent upon a bonded indebtedness of \$29,159 per mile. Its net earnings during the past five years have averaged about 10 per cent as much as the O. R. & N. R.

From an investment standpoint one mile of the O. R. & N. is worth two and one-half miles of the W. & C. R. R. Yet the W. & C. R. R. is assessed in this county upon its track, rolling stock and depot grounds not less than \$6,000 per mile, or more than 46 per cent of the O. R. & N. Gentlemen, the W. & C. R. R. assessment was settled by the board of equalization and it is now beyond your power to reduce. As measured by its earning capacity, its value, its assessment is fully as high as that of the O. R. & N. Then with what degree of fair play can you pull down the assessment of the O. R. & N.?

The officers of this company know, and I know and you can know that their road in this county is assessed at less than one-third its full value. I assert without fear of successful contradiction that ninety out of every one hundred taxpayers have better grounds for resisting the present assessment than this company.

Suppose, Sirs, that every taxpayer should place himself above the law and resist as these people are doing a lawful equitable assessment, what effect would it have upon this county? It would keep this county in continuous session as a board of equalization for a period of years. It would tie up the school funds, stop public improvement, convert organized government into anarchy.

Has Never Shown Its Value. This corporation has never shown our assessors its value. It has never presented him any figures whatever in support of its contention. How can it do so in the face of its own official statement? How can it disprove the official figures of the United States government?

Upon what grounds then can this court remove from this corporation its taxes and place them upon the shoulders of resident taxpayers? It is a creature of the state entitled to the privileges granted in its charter. It draws its life and prosperity from the people. To them it owes a just tax which I demand in their name. It not only owes a tax, it owes more, it owes obedience to the principles of this government.

I assert that it not only seeks to evade its tax, it does worse. It strikes at the foundation of representative government. Equality before the law is the key note of this republic. Who doubts that this corporation employs the pass system for the sole purpose of defeating justice in its own favor?

Again they have laid much stress on the fact that their road has been raised more than other property. I submit that the fact is not mine. Former assessments have been too low. This year their property has been placed more nearly upon an equality with other property.

The logic of their position is, that having been favored in the past...

School Books School Tablets School Supplies

No matter what the boy or girl needs for use in school it can be found at our store. Largest tablets with prettiest covers, at lowest prices.

FRAZIER'S BOOK STORE

They are entitled to an everlasting continuance of the same treatment. My position is that here is the property, consider its value, impose upon no man, shield nobody. Sirs, you have no more moral right to reduce the assessment upon this company's property below one-third its full value, than you have to abstract the money from the pockets of one man and empty it into those of another.

COMING STATE CONVENTION

THE OGDEN CONVENTION WAS A GREAT STIMULUS.

Supreme Advantages of Irrigation by Winter Flooding-Natural Advantages of Oregon Much Greater Than of Utah-Plans for the Coming State Convention.

F. B. Holbrook, of Umatilla, who was one of the delegates from this county to the National Irrigation Convention at Ogden, was in the city today looking after his business interests here. Mr. Holbrook is well pleased with the results of the meeting at Ogden, and thinks that good will come from the convention.

The delegates from this state were made acquainted with the government engineers, and made friends with them. They learned to see from the standpoint of the engineers and are now better able to look ahead and foresee the outcome of the question. What was done there and what was said will be remembered through the profit of the delegates, and through the benefit of the rest of the state. The system that is employed in Utah, the kind of water and the results that can be obtained were all noted by the men who went there as delegates, and the advantages of the soil, and the main features of the state will be taken into account in the cause of irrigation.

Winter Irrigation. Mr. Holbrook has a hobby, and that is winter irrigation, and he has some hard facts in support of his theory that what he says is the best. He is greatly in favor of the government works and thinks that they will be the means of reclaiming a vast number of acres in the eastern part of the state; but he is not inclined to wait in idleness for the government to act. He knows that it will be some time before the men at the head of the government work can get plans in operation, and he thinks that in the interim he can raise the standard of the land of this section without their help, and that the strides toward the perfection that will be the outcome of the institution of the government projects.

Large Land Deal. One of the biggest deals in farm lands to be made in recent months is the deal to be made by D. J. Wilsey, a prominent Yellow Hawk farmer, will pay over to Mike Tenney, \$33,600 for his 560 acre farm located on the Cottonwood, eight miles south-east of Walla Walla. The sale has been practically closed, only the formal signing of the deeds being necessary for Mr. Wilsey to become the owner of the farm.

A Heavy Rancher. Charles Isaac McKay creek, was in the city today making preparations for the seeding of his two ranches on McKay creek. Mr. Isaac has two large farms, one on the upper creek and one on the lower, and he is now ready to seed both of them for the coming harvest. One of the farms is about 20 miles from the city, while the other is about 10 miles. Mr. Isaac raises many cattle and as a result his farms are seeded to hay largely.

Fruit Wagon Runaway. This morning the team belonging to Tom Wickersham, of Milton, took fright near the Oregon Feed Yard, and before they could be stopped, overturned the wagon and scattered the load of fruit to the four winds. Besides the damage to the wagon and the fruit no damage was done.

Death of an Infant. Muri Tenney, the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Tenney, died yesterday afternoon of summer complaint, aged 1 year and 1 month. The child had been ill but a short time when it died. The funeral was held this afternoon at 3 o'clock from the home on George street, and was conducted by Rev. Robert Warner, of this city.

McCracken Ranch Sold. Manuel Pedro has bought the M. McCracken ranch near this city, with all of the implements and stock thereon. The ranch consists of 3,600 acres of land and about 4,000 head of sheep, together with horses and cows and all of the conveniences of the ranch. The price paid for the place was \$25,000.

Will Feed Cattle. Boddy and Coppick, of Athena, have purchased the herd of cattle belonging to Warren Bros., of Starkey Prairie, and will feed them in the neighborhood of Athena this winter. Hay is very high priced in Starkey, and other Eastern Oregon points and buyers find stock and beef cattle selling very cheap.

Residence Property Sold. Charles Olcut has purchased the J. T. Van Orsdal property, consisting of a house and two lots, in block 78, in reservation of Milton. Consideration, \$1,650. The sale was made through the agency of E. T. Wade & Son.

Straw in Demand. Stubble fields and straw stacks are in great demand by stockmen and are difficult to secure. In the Cold Springs county \$75 per 100 acres of stubble with straw stacks, seems to be the prevailing price-Athens Press.

Returned From Alberta. Robert Laing has returned from a trip to Alberta and points of interest along the line of travel. He reports a very pleasant trip, and says that he has not seen dust from the time he left Spokane until he returned to it here.

Delinquent Next Monday. The last half payment on the taxes of the county will be delinquent on Monday next and from that time on costs will be added to the amount for their collection.

Great Trading Center. Jefferson Myers, president of the Lewis and Clark fair commission, estimates that 2,100 carloads of merchandise were sent into Burns, Harney county, last year.

A Son Born. A son was born Saturday to the wife of J. A. Swart, O. R. & N. night operator at Kamela.

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FREEWATER FRUIT

SURPRISING FIGURES FROM ONE PACKING FIRM.

One Company Will Handle \$40,000 Worth of Fruit This Year-One Hundred Acres Strawberries-Sixty-six Carloads of Fruit Packed and Shipped in Three Weeks-Usually Heavy Peach Crop.

While in Freewater Saturday, the writer visited the packing house of the Walla Walla Produce Company, owned by W. Mumford, the superintendent, and gave some interesting figures relative to the fruit crop of that section. Many people think Umatilla county is largely, if not entirely, a stock or wheat country," said Mr. Mumford. "If the Eastern homesteader knew how diversified are our industries here, many of them would stop over and investigate this part of the state in place of going on to Portland and investigating in the Willamette valley.

"There are three houses handling fruit here at Freewater. This one house, the Milton branch of the Walla Walla Produce Company, will handle at least \$40,000 worth of fruit this season. We started about the first of May on strawberries. There are about 100 acres strawberries in this immediate vicinity, and the industry is capable of unlimited extension. We shipped \$10,000 worth during the season, shipping to the Coast and Northern Idaho, Baker City, Pendleton and other nearby points. Strawberries are a very profitable crop.

"About July let us begin on cherries, dewberries, blackberries, and raspberries. These last until August 15, when the peaches and pears begin coming in. To give you an idea of the amount of fruit handled during the height of the season, the three houses here for a period of three weeks, shipped 22 carloads of peaches. During the prune season we shipped 1,500 50-pound boxes per day. The prune crop gave employment to 40 hands in the packing department.

"The peach crop was unusually heavy this year. It was so large that we had to refuse a considerable per cent of the peaches offered, as there was a glut in the market at the time the peaches were coming in most heavily. We are now in the full swing of the apple harvest, which will last till about November 15, when we are shipping a car a day. We have 25 packers in the field. We send our packers out to the orchards. The farmers furnish the pickers and we furnish the boxes. We will handle about 50 cars of apples at a value of \$300 per car."

THE EARTH TREMBLED IN PENDLETON SUNDAY EVENING. Slight Shock of Several Seconds' Duration Experienced by Citizens of This Locality-First to Happen in This Section of the State.

Sunday evening at exactly 3:25, a distinct earthquake shock of about five seconds' duration, was felt by the people of Pendleton. There was a pronounced quiver, a rattling of stoves and windows and a creaking of houses, and before people could get up and had happened, it was over, and the old earth had resumed her normal quietude. There was no waving motion, and no swaying effect, usual in the case of a quake shock, but just a swift, quivering motion, and a distinct jar which caused houses to rattle and chairs to tremble.

The Earth Trembled. Many people were lying on sofas enjoying the quiet Sunday afternoon, and to these the shock seemed greater. Those standing on the ground felt the solid earth moving under their feet, and before they could locate the disturbance it was over. A slight roar or rumbling sound, as if a large crossing a bridge, accompanied the shock. For a few seconds the air seemed to vibrate and a buzzing sensation filled all ears.

As soon as people could realize what had happened, neighbors gathered in knots discussing it and describing their experiences during that brief period. On the high near the high school building the shock was quite distinct, and was noticed by everyone. Many did not know at first what it was, but attributed the queer noise and movement to something falling in the house, until they looked for the cause and failed to locate it.

Many people thought it was the noise of the switch engine in the yards, but at that time the engine was still and they soon found it was something more noisy than a switch engine-a switchman. In the Residence Districts. Down in the business portion of the city the shock was not felt so distinctly, but from every residence portion comes reports of the shake-up.

The oldest inhabitant cannot remember a even the slightest shock having occurred in the locality before and it comes as a new and thrilling experience for Pendleton. Those of Pendleton's citizens who have felt the periodic earthquake shock, say this one equaled in strength and duration the shocks that frequently occur in the city of San Francisco.

Charles Griesner, the millionaire brewer of Chicago, will build a brewery plant in Salina to cost \$50,000.

Fall Trade Good. It is good and that's a fact says Mr. Pinner, general importer. How do you account for it, when others are complaining about the fall trade? I asked him. Why, I do not know any other good reason than that the people have found out that we are actually selling better shoes for the money of the same quality for less money than others do. It is really remarkable how many people there are who remark about the "wearing quality" of our shoes. Now that is what we pay for and you get when you buy Douglas or Gloria or Best Schoolhouse Shoes. These shoes are sold at a price and no one attempts to undersell them—they simply can't and live. We have found the least margin of resistance to trade and that accounts for our increase this fall. Now watch us well shoes. We carry shoes on five widths in all foot form last—in all leathers, heights, styles, colors, weight, say etc. "Say, don't that boy talk some?" I thought as I went on my way with a fine pair of the Douglas shoes on from the

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The Earth Trembled. Many people were lying on sofas enjoying the quiet Sunday afternoon, and to these the shock seemed greater. Those standing on the ground felt the solid earth moving under their feet, and before they could locate the disturbance it was over. A slight roar or rumbling sound, as if a large crossing a bridge, accompanied the shock. For a few seconds the air seemed to vibrate and a buzzing sensation filled all ears.

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ST. JOE STORE

Special Dress Goods Sale

Commencing Monday, September 28th and Ending Saturday Night, Oct. 3rd

We have just received by express a beautiful line of NOVELTY DRESS GOODS, consisting of Scotch Cheviots, French Nails, English Homespuns, Etamines, Ribelines, Meltons, Camels Hair Mixtures and many others.

Remember on Dec. 24, We will Give Away, Absolutely Free, \$100.00 in Gold

We give a ticket with each purchase in any department of our store—Groceries as well as any other goods. No one in any way connected with the store will be allowed to participate in drawing.

Very Truly Yours, LYONS MERCANTILE CO.

WE ARE GETTING READY FOR THE BIG SHOW

THIS STORE WILL BE HEADQUARTERS FOR THE Big Crowd on Carnival days, OCT. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. We are making all kinds of arrangements to entertain everybody that comes. Look over the following list and perhaps you will see articles that you may need before the show.

Here's Our Winner: Fine TAILOR-MADE Suit in black, blue, and tan. \$7.98. Ladies' Walking Skirts from \$1.50 to \$7.50. Ladies' Mercerized Black Petticoats \$1.00 to \$5.00. Ladies' Drop-stitch and Lace Hose 25 and 50c. Ladies' Knit and Maslin Underwear. Ladies' Bead Girdles, Purses, Combs, Bags, Neckwear and Belts.

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The Earth Trembled. Many people were lying on sofas enjoying the quiet Sunday afternoon, and to these the shock seemed greater. Those standing on the ground felt the solid earth moving under their feet, and before they could locate the disturbance it was over. A slight roar or rumbling sound, as if a large crossing a bridge, accompanied the shock. For a few seconds the air seemed to vibrate and a buzzing sensation filled all ears.

As soon as people could realize what had happened, neighbors gathered in knots discussing it and describing their experiences during that brief period. On the high near the high school building the shock was quite distinct, and was noticed by everyone. Many did not know at first what it was, but attributed the queer noise and movement to something falling in the house, until they looked for the cause and failed to locate it.

Many people thought it was the noise of the switch engine in the yards, but at that time the engine was still and they soon found it was something more noisy than a switch engine-a switchman. In the Residence Districts. Down in the business portion of the city the shock was not felt so distinctly, but from every residence portion comes reports of the shake-up.

The oldest inhabitant cannot remember a even the slightest shock having occurred in the locality before and it comes as a new and thrilling experience for Pendleton. Those of Pendleton's citizens who have felt the periodic earthquake shock, say this one equaled in strength and duration the shocks that frequently occur in the city of San Francisco.

Charles Griesner, the millionaire brewer of Chicago, will build a brewery plant in Salina to cost \$50,000.

Fall Trade Good. It is good and that's a fact says Mr. Pinner, general importer. How do you account for it, when others are complaining about the fall trade? I asked him. Why, I do not know any other good reason than that the people have found out that we are actually selling better shoes for the money of the same quality for less money than others do. It is really remarkable how many people there are who remark about the "wearing quality" of our shoes. Now that is what we pay for and you get when you buy Douglas or Gloria or Best Schoolhouse Shoes. These shoes are sold at a price and no one attempts to undersell them—they simply can't and live. We have found the least margin of resistance to trade and that accounts for our increase this fall. Now watch us well shoes. We carry shoes on five widths in all foot form last—in all leathers, heights, styles, colors, weight, say etc. "Say, don't that boy talk some?" I thought as I went on my way with a fine pair of the Douglas shoes on from the

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