

TAX BURDEN TO BE MUCH LIGHTER

PROPERTY IN ASHLAND TO PAY LESS THAN THREE-FOURTHS WHAT IT DID LAST YEAR ON THE SAME VALUATION

Ashland property owners will rejoice to know that the taxes of the coming year will not exceed three-fourths the amount of last year. In fact, they will, except in a few instances where the valuation of individual pieces of property was raised by the assessor to equalize the burden, be less than three-fourths of the last year. The total tax levy of last year was 40.5 mills on the dollar, or more than 4 per cent of the assessed valuation. This year it is 29 mills, or 2.9 per cent. The county court levied a 10-mill tax throughout the county, except in the city of Ashland, whose charter provides that the city shall not be liable for county road tax. This has heretofore been levied upon Ashland, a portion of it coming back to the city, but most of it being spent elsewhere. Attorney Briggs recently called the attention of the citizens and of the county court to the provision of the charter in this regard, and the county court has followed the letter of the law in the matter, relieving the city of a burden of about \$6,000. The following is the levy for the city of Ashland:

Table with 2 columns: Category (State and county, School, City) and Amount (7, 8, 14). Total: 29.

The per cent of reduction over last year of course will not apply to properties against which there are special assessments for paving, sewer or other improvements. The levy does not affect this portion of the tax charged up to the property in the least, but does affect the general taxes upon such property, the same as it does all property against which there are no special assessments.

The following is the regular county levy, no road tax being levied on property in the city of Ashland. The levy is thus divided:

Table with 2 columns: Category (School and library, State, High school, Fruit inspection) and Amount (1.6, 1.1, 3.3, .4). Total: 6.4.

Table with 2 columns: Category (Advertising, General expense, Warrant redemption, Public buildings, Road) and Amount (1, 1.9, 1.5, 3, 1).

Total 10. The road levy is a mill less than a year ago. The general expense the same, the school and library the same. Warrant redemption is a new levy to redeem outstanding indebtedness and bring warrants to par. Public buildings is to repair court house. Fruit inspection was included in general expense a year ago, and is paid by an extra assessment upon orchard property. Advertising is to enable the county to do publicity work formerly done by the various commercial clubs.

An Elegant Map.

The Commercial Club has recently received, through the courtesy of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Co., an elegant map of heroic proportions. The territory embraced on this map is Oregon, Washington and Idaho in their entirety, also portions of Wyoming, Utah, Montana, Nevada and California. This work is what its name signifies, a map of the Pacific northwest, and the magnitude of its subdivisions is on a scale which makes it especially valuable as a work of reference, containing as it does not only states and counties, but also precinct boundaries, forest reserves, railways and highways. It is mounted in a substantial frame, and the map proper is glass-covered, features which add to its attractiveness.

Notice of Stockholders' Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Rogue River Fruit and Produce Association will be held at the public library building in the city of Medford on the 11th day of February, 1913, at 10 o'clock a. m.

R. C. WASHBURN, Pres. CONRO FIERO, Sec. January 11, 1913.

JACKSON STANDS SIXTH SUPERVISORS NAMED

State Apportionment Puts This County in That Position Regarding State Taxes.

The state tax commission at Salem on Thursday completed its apportionment of state taxes for this year among the various counties. Including the special levy for the Mouth normal, the total state taxes to be raised this year amount to \$1,122,214.48, derived from the state levy of 1.1 mills, which is the lowest ever made in this state except in the year 1859, when the levy was 1 mill. The apportionment is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Amount (Baker \$27,277.75, Benton 14,483.25, Clackamas 40,353.75, Clatsop 25,256.50, Columbia 18,432.25, Coos 24,811.00, Crook 15,879.25, Curry 4,306.00, Douglas 39,337.00, Gilliam 10,927.00, Grant 9,299.75, Harney 9,282.00, Hood River 12,750.50, Jackson 38,385.25, Josephine 13,719.00, Klamath 18,200.00, Lake 9,268.50, Lane 44,901.00, Lincoln 8,779.25, Linn 36,950.00, Malheur 12,291.50, Marion 51,577.00, Multnomah 410,188.48, Polk 20,954.00, Sherman 10,333.25, Tillamook 18,231.50, Umatilla 48,069.00, Union 25,044.50, Wallowa 13,035.75, Wasco 19,388.50, Washington 28,414.50, Wheeler 5,098.25, Yamhill 24,776.25).

As will be seen, Jackson county is placed sixth on the list. It would look at a glance as if Multnomah, at \$410,188.48, was getting off much easier in the way of state taxes than in Jackson county at \$38,385.25. The counties paying more state taxes than Jackson county are Clackamas, Douglas, Lane, Multnomah and Umatilla.

County Court Rearranges Districts and Appoints Men to Boss Road Building.

The county court has finished its work of re-districting the county into road districts. Many changes have been made. Scarcely a district remains the same as last year. Some of the old districts have been cut down, some enlarged, some consolidated, but all are more nearly of a uniform size than previously.

The following have been appointed supervisors for the new districts for the ensuing year:

- First District—Jack True, Ashland. Second—Sam Van Dyke, Phoenix and Talent. Third—A. B. Zimmerman, Eagle Point. Fourth—O. F. Welcher, West Central Point. Fifth—Nick Kimes, Griffin Creek. Sixth—Thomas Stanley, Lake Creek. Seventh—Frank Neil, Derby and Butte Falls. Eighth—J. E. Davison, Gold Hill. Ninth—John Grieve, Prospect. Tenth—W. R. Garrett, Applegate. Eleventh—Arthur Earhardt, Woodville. Twelfth—W. B. Chapman, Sams Valley. Thirteenth—E. C. Hamilton, East Central Point. Fourteenth—Dave Pence, Elk Creek and Trail.

—W. D. Hodgson offers for \$4,500, on terms, his 200-acre wood lot about a mile and a half from Ashland, on which is estimated 6,000 to 10,000 cords of wood. Good road made to it and bunk house. Phone him, 427-J. 65-6t

—Junior Minstrels at high school gym Friday evening, January 17. General admission 35c. Reserved seats 50c. Seats on sale at Lane's Wednesday a. m. Free auto service to and from the high school from Lane's.

—That spring line of John Kelly shoes is sure some class. See them at Enders'.

CANADIAN EXCURSIONISTS.

Big Train Passes Through Southbound Last Thursday.

Under the auspices of the Canadian Pacific, Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation, and Southern Pacific companies, a large special passed through Ashland last Thursday afternoon bound for southern California. The train equipment consisted of 11 coaches and was first class throughout. The excursionists were mainly Canadians from the northwest provinces. The trip had its inception at Calgary, but the gathering point at Spokane, from whence the excursionists proceeded southward in a body, about 150 in number, via Portland an San Francisco to points as far as the Mexican boundary. Return limit of tickets is April 30.

The train made more than the customary stop here. The excursionists were a representative body of people, bent on having a good time and noting conditions throughout the various sections traversed. They were interested in displays at the exhibit building and were in turn the recipients of several boxes of apples and ten gallons of sweet cider at the hands of the Commercial Club. A matter of note, as showing the trend of emigration towards the Canadian northwest, was the fact that although these people originally came from various portions of the Dominion and the United States, the great majority of those interviewed claimed the province of Ontario as their original habitat.

F. A. Whitney of San Francisco, traveling passenger agent of the S. P., was in charge of the excursionist special.

The Corded Poodle.

Country Life in America: A peculiarity of the poodle's coat is that unless it is kept constantly brushed out it twists up into little curls, which increase in length as the new hair grows and clings about it. The unshed old hair and the new growth entwined together thus become distinct, rope-like cords, which unless cut off will in time drag on the ground and interfere with the dog's freedom of movement. A few owners, who admire these long cords, keep them tied up in bundles on the dog's back, but this is about as unsightly an arrangement as can well be conceived.

Wells-Fargo Fixing Up.

The local office of the Wells-Fargo Express Company is having its office fixed up in good shape. A room is being built in the rear for the storage of unclaimed articles, etc. The counters are being repainted and grained and the place otherwise slicked up to meet the competition of the parcels post.

The Ashland Transfer & Storage Co., which has officed with the Wells-Fargo company for some years, has moved to the building adjoining, formerly occupied by Gillette & Campbell.

There are a large number of deer reported coming down from the mountains because of the snows. Deputy Warden Hubbard reports seeing 75 in one drove.

ATTEMPTED HOLD-UP AT PHOENIX

SOUTHERN PACIFIC AGENT BEATEN UP BY THUGS WHO UNSUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT TO ROB DEPOT AT THAT PLACE

There was an attempt made last night to hold up the Southern Pacific depot at Phoenix. Two men were in the job and the agent attempted to stand them off with an umbrella as a weapon. They then knocked him down with the butt of a revolver and fled. When he recovered he gave the alarm and the officers in the various towns in the valley were at once notified.

Chief Oien rounded up a good-sized bunch of suspects this morning and held them awaiting the arrival of Sheriff Singler who came up on the 11:35 train.

There was but an indefinite description of the men wanted, their attack having been made in the dark.

It is reported that the agent at Phoenix is here also, but a telephone message to the Southern Pacific depot in this city brings no confirmation and Chief Oien, Sheriff Singler and Mr. Kelly of Roseburg, railroad detective, are at the time of going to press engaged in rounding up the hobo's in the railroad yards in order to try and find more suspects. There is a strong suspicion that the affair

JUNIOR MINSTRELS.

Modern Morality Play to Be Principal Feature.

The Junior Minstrel Show and the modern morality play, "Every City," to be presented by the Junior class of the high school under the direction of Professor Irving E. Vining, will be one of the most entertaining and unique attractions seen in Ashland for many a day.

The song features will be especially notable, containing such Broadway hits as "There's a Girl in Havana," from Lew Field's "Never Homes;" "Strawberries," from "Little Miss Fixit;" "The Little Chauffeur," from "The Vanderbilt Cup;" "B-R-O-K-E spells Broke," a minstrel favorite, and other catchy melodies that Broadway hummed and whistled for many months. The end-men jokes and "stunts" are all original and of a local nature. The fresh young voices and the joyous gambols of the Juniors add a quality of verve and dash to the performance that will prove irresistible.

The modern morality play, "Every City," which constitutes the Part II of the program, was written by Professor Vining especially for this occasion. An introductory meeting of the city council is held during which the strolling players are invited to perform before the council. Among the characters introduced are Father Destiny, a Mysterious Stranger, Fair Ashland, Business, City Fathers, Taxes, and others to the number of sixteen. Not only satire and criticism of faults and follies are introduced, but also the voice of hope and commendation and the inspiration of a glorious destiny makes its appeal to all Peers of Fair Ashland's Domain. You, yourself, will be made a part and you should hear Fair Ashland's ringing appeal for the Blue Bird of Happiness.

High school auditorium, Friday night, June 17. General admission 35 cents. Reserved seats 50 cents. Free autos from Lane's to and from the high school. Seats on sale Wednesday morning at Lane's.

Artificial Spider's Web.

The largest spider web in the world was spun not by a spider but by human hands. It stands on the lawn of a Chicago man's country home, and is of such tremendous size as to startle the passerby when he first sees it. The creator of this interesting oddity conceived the idea of attempting to see how closely an actual spider's web could be reproduced with rope. Selecting two immense trees on the lawn of his home, he spun between them this spider's web, 40 by 60 feet, which is so strong that a boy or man may easily climb to the center or top of it.

Mrs. Elizabeth Preater, grandmother of Mrs. John Parsons, died at the Parsons home Sunday. Mrs. Preater was born in England and was 92 years, 4 months and 10 days old. The funeral will be held at the residence of Dr. Parsons Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock.

THE PORTLAND EVENING TELEGRAM and Ashland Tidings one year, \$5.00.

TROLLEY LINE IN VALLEY ASSURED

MINNEY COMPANY GRANTED FRANCHISE BY CITY COUNCIL OF MEDFORD LAST FRIDAY—WILL BUILD THIS SPRING

The ordinance granting to the M. T. Minney Company of Oakland, Cal., a franchise for the operation of an electric street car system in Medford was passed by the Medford city council Friday night with but one dissenting vote, that of Councilman George Millar, socialist member. The passage carries with it the throat of the socialist party of Medford to initiate a referendum election to compel the council to cut the life of the franchise from 50 years to 25 years.

Councilman Millar, in support of this contention, introduced a letter as long as the ordinance itself, setting forth the views of the socialist party on long-term franchises. The manuscript made it clear that the party, neither collectively or individually, wanted to greet capital with a club, but was simply an adherence to the principles to which they are bound. Therein it was stated that unless a 25-year term was agreed upon a referendum would be invoked. The letter was read, listened to attentively and then passed on without a word of comment from any source.

Representatives of the Minney company said after the passage that the franchise would be accepted and a check for \$2,500 deposited with the city recorder, as required by the ordinance. Steps will be taken Monday for the securing of material and the beginning of preliminary construction by the first of February. The drawing of lines of the first survey on Main street will be begun some time this week. It is the intention of the company to have work in full swing by the first of April and be in position to handle the 1912 fruit crops. They will apply at the next meeting of the city council of Ashland for the granting of a franchise practically identical with the one passed in Medford.

Leaders of the socialist party said that they had been assured of enough signatures to a petition to insure a referendum election, and that the dissatisfaction on this fea-

ture of the ordinance was not alone within their ranks, but that many others would side with them in their protest. The socialists are anxious to disabuse any idea that they are taking this stand for any motive other than the best, and that they are as anxious as any one else for the development of the Rogue river valley. But 50 years, they aver, is too long—25 years about right. Under the state law it will be necessary to secure 10 per cent of the voters at the last election to a referendum petition.

The ordinance as passed Friday night differs but little from the one first introduced, the most important change being a time limit of two years for the forfeiture by failure to comply with the ordinance, when before it was three years—a gain for the city. It also provides for a half-hour service in the city from 6 o'clock in the morning to 9 o'clock at night, common user rights from Central avenue to Roosevelt avenue, a bond to insure the repair of streets torn up by construction and laying of tracks, payment after two years for the use of the Bear creek bridge, the installation of a telephone and telegraph system in connection with the operation of the road, and 5-cent fares in the city limits, with transfers.

The passage of the ordinance was greeted with cheers by the large crowd that packed and jammed the council chambers. Representatives of the Barnum interests were present, but maintained silence. Final action upon the ordinance pending before the council in their behalf will receive consideration at a meeting of the city council to be held Monday afternoon, when all unfinished business of the year will be cleared away, leaving a clear deck for the next administration.

With the passage of the ordinance it is understood that several holders of property are preparing to offer substantial bonuses to the Minney company.

TO TAP COAL MINES CORPORATION VALUES

Trolley Line May Connect Roxy Ann Mines and Lime Deposits of Valley.

Medford, Jan. 10.—That a huge cement plant is to be started in the Rogue river valley in the near future is shown by negotiations now under way between the Iola Portland Cement Company and the Minney company, with a view to the latter's extending the trolley line to connect the coal mines on Roxy Ann and the lime deposits now under option of the company. The cement people will use 200 tons of coal a day to begin with.

The coal secured from the mines, while not as yet a good commercial coal, fulfills the requirements of the cement makers, who can use both the shale and the coal. A trolley line to bring the coal and lime together will be part of the proposed interurban system.

The Iola Portland Cement Company is one of the largest cement concerns in the world. The company operates plants at Iola, Kan., of 20,000 barrels capacity daily; at Chino, Kan., of 5,000 barrels daily capacity; at Independence, Kan., of 5,000 barrels daily capacity, and at Des Moines, Iowa, of 5,000 barrels daily capacity.

Indications all point to an era of development in the valley to be inaugurated by the new trolley line, and the establishment of long-needed payrolls.

What promises to be the best commercial coal prospect yet secured is being opened up by Colonel Mundy near the top of Roxy Ann, three or four hundred feet above the old workings. A 12-foot vein, free from shale and clay, is being opened up, a tunnel several hundred feet in length having been driven. The vein is evidently in "place" and a few days' more work will tell the story.

—Klamath whole wheat, graham and rye flour, the finest of Gemma seed rye, wheat, barley, vetch, clover, alfalfa, all kinds of garden seeds, hay, grain, poultry and stock remedies, china eggs, leg bands, etc., at the Klamath Exchange. Call and see us. Phone 4.

County Clerk Receives Valuations of Corporations in Jackson County From State.

The county clerk has received a notice from the state tax commission that the valuation on corporation property in Jackson county for 1913 is \$4,620,439, which is a small increase over 1912. The state requires \$38,385.25 tax from this county this year, a considerable decrease over last year.

The total valuation of the county this year is \$36,668,000 as against \$38,000,000 in 1912. It was predicted by County Assessor Grieve that the valuation would be between \$37,000,000 and \$38,000,000 this year, but the valuation made by the state on corporations fell below his estimate.

PICTURES TONIGHT.

Good Roads Illustrated Lecture at Grand Army Hall.

Mr. H. J. Doolittle, representing the Association of Western Portland Cement Manufacturers, is in the city and has perfected arrangements for the good roads lecture at Grand Army hall tonight. Mr. Doolittle is a civil engineer, and has had ample experience along construction of improved highways, consequently all those interested in this subject should hear his address along these lines. Admission free. All are cordially invited.

WRIGHT IS MANAGER

Clinton Wright Promoted to Management of Ashland Fruit & Produce Association.

The board of directors of the Ashland Fruit & Produce Association met last week and selected Clinton Wright, who has been bookkeeper for the association for several years, to the position of manager. C. H. Gillette was re-elected president, M. C. Linniger was elected secretary and C. B. Lamkin treasurer.

Phone job orders to the Tidings.