Figures Wrong Declares West

To the Taxpayers of Oregon:

The following article is self-explanatory, and contains indisputable facts, taken from the public records of the state:

The public service commission places the total valuation of the Portland, Railway, Light & Power company, for the five counties of

BEN F. WEST
Candidate for State Treasurer

Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Polk and Washington, on all its operating property, at $46,862,971.92. The state tax commission placed a valuation, after deducting the county ratios, on this same property, at $14,609,322.55. The gas plant at Salem, as an individual concern was given a valuation of $211,000 by the public service commission, while the state tax commission's valuation, after applying the county ratio, was $61,200.

The public service commission gave the California-Oregon Power company of southern Oregon a valuation of $2,717,174, while the state tax commission placed the valuation of this company's property at $468,450.80, after applying the county ratios. This company operates in Douglas, Jackson, Josephine and Klamath counties. These are only two instances.

What I want to show is the inequality of the valuations of the public utility properties with that of the private corporations and individuals. These corporations as assessed by the state tax commission and the valuations given them by the public service commission should be the same.

The state treasurer is an ex-officio member of the state tax commission and if I am nominated and elected to the office of state treasurer these conditions will be remedied. The people of Marion county know I play no favorite. I therefore ask your support and vote at the primaries on May 17.

(Paid Adv. by Ben F. West.)

SOLDIERS' LETTERS

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Lamkin are in receipt of the following letter from their son Charles who is with the 65th artillery regiment in France:

Somewhere in France.

Dear Papa, Mama and All: Well, we are here at last. I suppose you have been looking for a letter from me for quite a while. Everything has been pretty much torn up and we havn't been in any place where we could get the opportunity to write. We are not settled permanently yet. We expect to be billeted out in French families very soon now but we will all eat together. Did you get my letter from Camp Merritt? I wrote you from there the second day we were there. How are you all getting along? I haven't been sick a day yet, only one or two days on the Northern Pacific I didn't feel very good. Taking everything from the time we left until now, we have had a pretty pleasant and interesting trip. We were seven days on board from New York across. The fifth day we woke up in the morning and went out on deck and (censor) for the first time. Our boats are built different and are altogether the best in every respect. Better manned, too, About 7 or 8 hours from dock a big (censor) over us and several airplanes were seen. I'll have to stop for an hour or so, they are falling in now for church services by the army chaplain.

1:30 p. m.

Southern France is quite a bit like Oregon in wheather. The few days we have been here it has rained, only about one hour out of the day, but today it has rained all day so far.

Yesterday I was up town walking around seeing things. The main business street here is about 15 feet wide. The sidewalks are about 2½ feet wide. The people nearly all walk up the middel of the street. There are some very good dressed people here, but most of them very poorly dressed. Nearly every man wears the French uniform. We are all quartered here in an old French monastery, it is four stories high and about 150 feet by 200 with a big basement and underneath that a dark, deep dungeon used here in the days of Napoleon for their prisoners. There are several such buildings as this one, all inside a big stockade made out of mortar. Underneath the walls are the stables which held Napoleon's bodyguard horses and the cavalry horses, which if you remember, was the great Dragon Cavalry of his time. From the wall back of the buildings you can get a beautiful view of the valley and mountains, vineyards and green fields. There the grain is up here about two inches now. France is a country where you see industry in everything; and is also a beautiful country. England has lots of country which is good, but is used more for gardens and parks. It is more picturesque than France, but that is all you can say for it. When we were in the British camps in England we went through an old abbey which they claim to be over 1200 years old. That was a sight to see. Inside all the prominent earls and dukes and other people of England being buried in it. The altars, galleries underground passages and tomb stones were very old. I registered my name in a big book there and also carved it away up in the tower. Most of the big old colonial manors have been turned into hospitals, so there are lots of nurses and invalid soldiers to be seen. I guess I have seen nearly every denomination of soldiers from Americans down to Turks. The Canadians are a fine bunch of fellows, also the Australians and the French. But they all are glad to see "Uncle Somme" as they call us. The British call us the "bloody Yanks."

The railroad trains here look like toys alongside of ours. The cars are built in four compartments, holding eight persons each, with a door and window for each. Their engines look like little play things. We traveled along about 20 miles an hour—bumpty-bump-bump. Anyway they are slow but sure. The whistle sounds like the whistle on a peaunt wagon back in the states.

We went through (censored) about 5:30 a.m. one morning. I was the only one awake in our section. But it was so dark I couldn't see much. You know they don't burn lights in the buildings here at night much later than 10 o'clock on account of air raids. The Americans are sure going after the Germans with gas. Germany would like to quit that kind of fighting right now if we would let her.

Well, folks, this is my last sheet of paper, and I don't want to tell you all now or I won't have anything for next time.

Love to all, will write again soon.

Bye-bye,
CHARLIE.

Battery E 65th Artillery C. A. C., American Expeditionary Forces, by New York.

SHIPYARDS APPEAL FOR SUMMER WORKERS

University of Oregon, Eugene, May 13.—C. W. Ausman, employment and industrial manager of the Grant Smith-Porter Ship company, of Portland, has just sent an appeal to the registrar's office at the university for workers for the summer, and plans to visit the university in a short time for the purpose of obtaining first hand information as to the prospects for workmen and to ask for cooperation.

Mr. Ausman outlines some of the advantages of the Grant Smith-Porter yards in the following way: eight of the yards are roofed over, there are recreation buildings, modern sanitation, live athletic committees and teams, splendid transportation facilities, rooming places, co-operation between departments and specially trained foremen.

"Will some active students volunteer their services this summer," asked Mr. Ausman, "and will they have just as much enthusiasm as though they were digging a trench in France? The work is just as important."

BRITISH TO REOPEN OREGON RECRUITING

Lieut. E. Evans, Sergeant G. M Slade and Sergeant G. C. Killam of the British and Canadian recruiting mission are planning to make a two months' trip through Oregon to enlist British and Canadian subjects for everseas service with those forces.

The journey is to be made by automobile and the recruiting officers are now in Portland preparing for their trip. They expect to visit every hamlet in the state.

"The British-Canadian recruiting mission had notable success in Oregon, particularly in Portland," said Lieut. Evans, "but in the smaller towns there are many subjects of the crown who should be enlisted. They will doubtless do so when the opportunity is presented to them.

"We will take men into the service up to the age of 57 years if they wish," he continued. "The Canadian draft age is 40 years. That of the British army is 45."

Old papers for sale at the Tidings office.

DISCOURAGING LETTERS CAUSE DESERTIONS

In a recent statement the war department strongly advises against discouraging letters to soldiers:

"Recent reports from commanding generals of certain army divisions indicate that one of the fruitful causes of soldiers absenting themselves without leave is the discouraging letters from home. Such letters frequently give alarming exaggerated reports of conditions surrounding the soldier's family, that some member is desperately sick, that all are starving or that they are in some way being harassed. In instances such letters have so preyed upon the minds of soldiers that they have absented themselves without leave to go home, only to find that conditions had been grossly exaggerated.

Meanwhile, the soldier had been absent without leave, a serious military offense. His problem then became one of facing the penalty or getting deeper into trouble by deserting. Sometimes a man's pride or fear has led him to desert.

"Every soldier wants to receive letters from home. They should be frequent, cheerful, hopeful and appreciative of the sacrifices that he is making for his country. They should be full of family incidents and cheerful home gossip. They should protect him from the trifling alarms and the small annoyances of everyday life. They should encourage him by giving full confidence that his family and his friends stand behind him in the great enterprise he has undertaken.

"The value of such letters to soldiers is beyond estimate. The harm that discouraging letters from home do to him is clearly indicated by reports at the adjutant general's office. Here are some extracts from recent reports of division commanders:

"'I find also that many of the families of the men write to them of unsatisfactory conditions at home, sickness of relatives and how much various members of the family wish to see the soldier. These letters, so far as sickness, etc., are concerned, are often overdrawn but combined with the homesick feeling, often result in the man going absent without leave and finally being dropped as a deserter.'

"'I am now, through the newspapers of Indiana and through lecturers in Kentucky, whom we are able to reach through the office of the adjutant general of that state, endeavoring to advise the home people of these men of the seriousness of these offenses and that their efforts should be to assist every man in performing the duty that has devolved on him, to lighten his worries and, above all, to regard desertion in its proper light. I shall also attempt to get the West Virginia papers to institute a campaign of education along similar lines.'

"A division inspector submitted the following in this connection:

"'While stationed at Columbus barracks, Ohio, last year I was a member of a general court marital that tried apporximately 100 enlisted men for desertion from national guard regiments stationed on the border. I believe I am safe in saying that at least 90 per cent of them gave as their reason for desertion the fact that they had received letters from home to the effect that a wife, sister or mother was either dying, very ill or in destitute circumstances, and beggged the man to come home at once. Many of the men admitted that when they arrived home they found that the writer of the letter had exaggerated conditions.'

"Many young soldiers, fresh from home, suffer from homesickness, no matter how army officers may try to make their surroundings pleasant and comfortable and provide proper amusements. Extraordinary measures have been taken by the war department during the past year to keep the young soldier actively engaged while in camp with sports, amusements and comforts that a wholesome psychology might be maintained. Still, a type of soldier will yearn for home and fall into a brooding mood. It is obvious how harmful to him and to the service a discontented letter from home might be."

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Spencer left Sunday night for Albany where they will attend the department encampment as delegates of the local women's relief corps and G. A. R.

Medford's quota in the third Liberty loan drive was $233,000. On completing the count Saturday evening, at the close of the drive, it was discovered that this city had exceeded its quota by nearly $31,000, having a total of $264,450 to its credit.

Vote X No. 47

J. B. SCHAEFER

Republican Candidate for Water Superintendent

DIVISION NO. 1

Has practical knowledge and experience in Irrigation.

Not representing Bonding Companies.

Mobilizing Your Finances

It's easy when your available cash is all snugly reposing in a sound bank. You can handle your finances with less cost and trouble.

Join Our Army of Depositors and be prepared for the financial battles that face you.

State Bank of Ashland

For Governor

GUS C. MOSER

Republican

President Oregon State Senate

FOR A VIGOROUS PROSECUTION OF THE WAR TO A VICTORIOUS CONCLUSION.

FOR STRICT BUSINESS PRINCIPLES IN MANAGEMENT OF STATE AFFAIRS.

FOR RURAL CREDITS EXTENSION, IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALL OUR RESOURCES.

FOR ASSISTANCE BY PORTLAND CAPITAL AND BUSINESS TO EVERY SECTION OF OUR GREAT STATE.

FOR THE RIGHTS OF BOTH LABOR AND CAPITAL UNDER A SCHEME OF MUTUAL CO-OPERATION.

For Good Roads, but Fighting the Paving Trust

We are paying about $5000 more per 16-foot mile of Bitulithic pavement in Oregon than is being paid in Washington. Let us build good roads in every county in the state—GIVE EVERY COUNTY A SQUARE DEAL. Elect MOSER and you will forever banish the subtle influence of the Paving Trust from Oregon politics.

AGGRESSIVELY INDEPENDENT

A Patriotic American

A Native of Wisconsin, Age 47

For 27 Years A Resident of Oregon

The Man Who Put the Rogue River Fish Bill Through the Senate

(Paid Adv)

Renew Shabby Varnished Surfaces

You can easily make marred or shabby varnished surfaces bright and new. For floors that are worn and scuffed use Acme Quality Varnotile — Floor Varnish. Woodwork and furniture should be varnished with Acme Quality Interolite. Window sills, doors and exterior surfaces are given a durable finish with Acme Quality Sparkote or Exterolite. There's an

ACME QUALITY

VARNISH

for every purpose. A floor varnish that's tough and durable and made especially to be walked upon, varnishes for automobles and carriages, woodwork, furniture or any surface that can be varnished, either indoors or outdoors.

Tell us which you need.

Swenson & McRae
Ashland, Oregon

Fred A. Williams
OF
GRANTS PASS, OREGON

Republican Candidate For PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER

Came to Rogue River Valley in 1906. Have been practising law 18 years.

Believes that the man who pays the freight should have something to say about the fare and service of PUBLIC UTILITIES, ESPECIALLY, LIGHT POWER AND WATER.

Co-operation with the PUBLIC is the duty.

No. 43 on the Ballot.

(Williams for Commissioner Committee)
(Paid adv)