

AVERS C. K. HENRY MASSATES FACTS ABOUT SINGLE TAX

Vancouver Does Not Derive Funds From Income, Personal, Bank, or Poll Tax; Government Makes Levy.

Portland, Oct. 14.—To the Editor of The Journal—In the Oregonian of the twelfth last, appears a communication over the signature of C. K. Henry, purporting to give a true version of the methods of taxation in operation in the city of Vancouver, B. C. For over 25 years I have been a resident and a taxpayer in British Columbia and am today the owner of improved and unimproved property in the city of Vancouver. I served two terms on the aldermanic board of the city of Victoria, and three terms in a similar position in the city of Vancouver, and am in a position to say that Mr. Henry either knows not understand the situation in British Columbia, or willfully misrepresents it. We have in British Columbia, a provincial (or state) government and a system of municipal government consisting of three classes of municipalities—cities, operating under special charters, granted by a special act of the provincial legislature; cities and districts operating by authority of a general act of the legislature, known as the Municipal Clauses act. The powers of cities having special charters are limited to the provisions of their charter. The powers of cities and rural municipal districts organized under the general Municipal Clauses act, are limited by the act.

Special and General Powers. All municipalities have such powers as are delegated to them by special or general act of the legislature. British Columbia is a new and very large country, with a small population, the greater bulk of which is to be found in the cities. There can be no municipal government except where the country is settled. Hence it follows that the greater part of its territory is in all things governed by the provincial authorities. The government taxes all lands owned by municipalities have not yet been organized, mines and minerals, coal (mined), manufacturing machinery, fish canneries and their output, stocks in trade (goods), incomes above \$1000 a year, insurance, household goods, telegraph, street railway and banking companies, are taxed all over the province by the provincial government only. The provincial government also levies a poll tax of \$3 per head. Personal property, such as household goods, jewelry and farm produce, are exempt everywhere.

Improvements Exempt. All improvements, such as buildings, clearings, orchards, fences, etc., are everywhere exempt to the extent of 50 per cent of their assessed value. The government also imposes a special tax on unimproved lands, outside the municipalities, called the wild land tax. Unimproved land is first taxed on its value at the same rate as improved land. Then the government imposes a special tax, because it is held in a wild or unimproved state. In many cases this tax is so heavy that holders of such property are compelled to clear it in order to reduce their taxes.

Calls Statement False. Mr. Henry says, "Vancouver, B. C., owing to the enormous revenue derived from its income, personal property, franchise corporation and bank taxes, coupled with the poll tax of \$3 per head." And again, "they do assess not only the land but the improvements, although their chief income is derived from the income tax." This statement, with the exception of the words, "they do assess not only the land but the improvements," is absolutely without foundation in fact. No British Columbia municipality levies or collects any sum whatever on incomes. Vancouver city has not the power and does not levy or collect any part of its revenue from income, personal property, bank taxes or the \$3 poll tax. All these are reserved by the provincial government for its own support. The statement that "their chief income is derived from the income tax" applied to the city of Vancouver, B. C., whoever is responsible for it, is untrue. Vancouver does assess land and improvements, but it does not tax improvements. It does collect license fees for the sale of liquors, of which one-half must be paid to the provincial government. It has power to collect fines from hawk and dog men, boarding houses, places of amusement and auctioneers, but these powers are used almost exclusively for purposes of regulation, the sum obtained in this way is insignificant. Almost the entire municipal revenue comes from land values. Single tax men got this reform, they know what they want.

Municipal Clauses Act. Let me quote from the Municipal Clauses act governing municipalities: "In February, 1892, Honorable Theodore Davis, attorney general, introduced a bill (passed April 25, 1892), section EVERYBODY'S FRIEND

The old family doctor, of whom so few are now seen in this age of "specialists" was a true friend and adviser of his patients. They depended on him to keep them in health, and cheer them with his counsel. He taught them the wisdom of preventing illness by watching closely after the health of the family. Mrs. S. H. DuBois writes from her home at Hempstead, L. I.: "Vinol is an old friend of our family. We have used it for years whenever any of us need a tonic on account of being in a rundown state of health, and it always gives perfect satisfaction. We have used nine bottles this winter." There are thousands of families who could and do say the same thing. Vinol, our delicious cod liver and iron preparation without oil, has proved its value by bringing back rugged health and strength to weak numbers of weak, run-down men, women and children. That is why we sell so much and guarantee it to give satisfaction. If it disappoints you, you can have your money back at once. Woodard, Clarke & Co., druggists, Portland, Or.

MAY BUILD ELECTRIC SMELTER IN ELKHORN

(Special to The Journal.) Albany, Or., Oct. 13.—The Silver King Mining and Smelting property is located in the Elkhorn district in Marion county, northwest of Gates, is preparing to ship a consignment of ore to Newark, N. J., where it will be given a mill trial at the Reid and Co. Smelting works. It is the purpose of the company to obtain exact data as regards the different ore values with the end in view of installing a smelter at the mine the coming season. It will be the first electric smelter in Oregon, and one of the few in service on the coast. There is abundant water power on the company's property for the operation of the proposed smelter. An exceedingly rich strike of silver lead ore was made on this property recently in what is known as the west tunnel, which has been driven 120 feet. Active mining operations are in progress and will be continued during the winter. Experts have pronounced the average ore showing to be exceptionally good and this has been substantiated by various assays.

CURRY COUNTY HAS HOPES OF RAILROAD ALONG THE COAST

Agents of Mysterious Line Are Said to Be Buying Right-of-Way and Bandon People Give Options.

(Special to The Journal.) Marshfield, Or., Oct. 12.—The purchasing of right of way in Curry county by a railroad of which little is known is leading the people of that locality to believe that the Hill interests are preparing to enter Curry county with a coast railroad. It is announced that Port Orford people have given options on 100 acres of land adjoining that place and also have agreed to give a right of way through to the harbor. Rights of way are being obtained by one man from Port Orford to Langlois and by another from Langlois to Bandon. It is also said that 11 acres of land at the Lakemont townsite have been taken as a depot site.

The agents for the road give an agreement that the road will be started within six months and finished in two years. The people are hopeful of having railroad connections in Curry county. The Southern Pacific several years ago surveyed a line through the county from north to south and other surveys have been made at different times. The general belief is that the rights of way are being obtained for what will be a part of a Hill coast line.

Long Search Ended. (Special to The Journal.) Marshfield, Or., Oct. 12.—After searching for many years Tom Christensen of this city believes that he has found traces of his brother Chris Christensen whom he has not seen for 25 years. The older brother, Chris, left home 25 years ago. The younger brother who lives in this city, left Norway nine years ago with a mission from his parents to find the older brother. It was learned that Chris was in Oregon but in what particular part was not known. Tom Christensen took up his residence on Coos Bay. He has learned that a man named Chris Christensen is living in a town on the Columbia river and is following the business of a fisherman. He does not know in what town the brother is living but will write to the different places along the Columbia in the hope of locating the relative for whom he has sought so long.

Ban on Dancing Club. (Special to The Journal.) Marshfield, Or., Oct. 12.—Objecting to the use of the name of the high school in connection with a dancing club the school board of North Bend has passed resolutions setting forth that the board does not support either morally or financially any such dancing club and disapproves the use of the name of the school in connection with the dancing organization.

Power Promised Tiny Towns. (Special to The Journal.) Walla Walla, Wash., Oct. 12.—Smaller towns and villages in this county may no longer have to depend upon the old

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UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES LUMBERMAN'S COURSE The University of Washington school of forestry, Seattle, is announcing a lumberman's course, planned to meet the needs of young men preparing for work in logging engineering. The course is provided in response to a demand for young men who combine with their forestry training a sufficient knowledge of civil and mechanical engineering, are enabled to lay out logging roads, and act as a team of approximately, to take charge of logging operations. This is a demand the school of forestry has had in mind from the first, and it has been studying the curriculum to meet it as rapidly as conditions would permit, but has not announced the full course till this year. The course as announced, includes two years of mechanical drawing, plane,

geographic and railroad engineering, as well as other work, such as surveying and machine design. The courses in lumbering, timber surveying and log loading are given by men of practical experience. This year A. J. Clark, a graduate of Yale forest school, was named to the university as assistant professor of forestry in charge of lumbering and manufacturing. Day continued. Altius Pool Co.

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