

ASHLAND EVADES COUNTY ROAD TAX THRU COURTS

Supreme Court Up- holds Decision of Judge Calkins

SALEM, Or., Dec. 9.—O. H. Johnson vs. County of Jackson, appellants; appealed from Jackson; involving the validity of tax on real property; affirmed.

The decision of the supreme court, affirming the decision handed down by Judge Calkins, of the circuit court, last spring, closes the long drawn battle between the county of Jackson and the city of Ashland in the county road tax controversy, and instructs the county court to return to the Ashland city treasury \$9,700—the amount of road tax voluntarily paid in by that community during the past fourteen years.

By the provisions of a clause in the Ashland charter, the city is exempted from the payment of county road taxes, although enjoying all of the benefits and privileges derived from the common highways. The provision had always been disregarded, and the road tax paid, until Mayor O. H. Johnson took office last spring, when suit was instituted by the city of Ashland to recover the taxes paid in former years and to restrain the county from collecting for a similar purpose in the future. The case was heard in the circuit court, where a decision sustaining the Ashland contention was rendered by Judge Calkins. The case was promptly appealed by the county, with the before mentioned result.

It would have been necessary for the supreme court to have reversed itself for the county to win, but as the roads benefit the cities as well as the county, a strong case was made for the county and attorneys hoped for a reversal.

Upon advice of the supreme court decision Mayor Johnson, of Ashland, declared that he would submit an amendment to the citizens annulling the charter proviso, and bring Ashland into the common fold of road tax assessment for the future.

"I intend to give the people of Ashland the opportunity," said Mayor Johnson, "of declaring whether they wish to take their part in the county road expense or not. For fourteen years Ashland, in spite of its charter provision, has paid its road taxes until the amount has reached \$9,700. We feel it our right to ask for the refunding of this amount to the city. The county of course will have to refund the amount."

"With the construction of the Pacific highway, however, there has been a change in the good road sentiment here and I think I am safe in saying that the people of Ashland in general are not only in favor of good roads in the county, but feel that Ashland should bear its share of the expense in this regard."

"Be Good and Write Often," Says Judge to Paroled One

It is "back to the farm" for Will Titus—back to 220 acres of good Texan soil, and the opportunity to square matters with the young wife whom his indiscretions sent home to her folks.

Titus, who was recently found guilty in the circuit court of contributing to the delinquency of Beatrice Kavanaugh and Myrtle Hanson, young girls of Medford, was paroled by Judge Calkins on Monday to County Judge F. L. Tou Velle. He will go back to Texas, reporting by letter to the county court each week.

During his trial and imprisonment Titus won many official friends by his frank and manly bearing, and the suspicion that he was a victim of circumstances led to action in his behalf after the conviction. Dave Boggs, who was also a principal in the case will expiate his error in prison.

Both girls in the case—constituting a joy-riding excursion to an Ashland rooming house—were sent to the state industrial school last week.

Danger of Hindu Invasion Is Seen.

Portland, Or.—A warning that the United States is in danger of a Hindu immigration invasion, similar to that of the Japanese and Chinese, unless the Hindus are made an excluded class, was sounded by Anthony Caminetti, United States commissioner general of immigration, while in Portland. The commissioner general is on an official tour of the west.

DAVID I. WALSH



David I. Walsh, the Democrat who was elected Governor of Massachusetts to succeed Governor Foss.

Governor Seeks Work for Jobless

The accompanying letter and blank received from Governor Oswald West tell their own story. The work undertaken is a commendable one and The News urges the cooperation of our citizens:

STATE OF OREGON
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
SALEM
December 1, 1913.

To the Editor:

We wish to ask your kind co-operation in a movement to connect our unemployed with a job. There are undoubtedly many residents of your county who could use the services of a good hand this winter and there are many idle men in Portland and other cities in this state who would be glad to have a place.

If you will be kind enough to run this letter and attached information blank in a few issues of your paper our plan will be called to the attention of those needing a hand. Any requests for labor made to our office will at once be taken up with those who are hunting for employment.

Assuring you that your co-operation will be greatly appreciated, I am

Yours very truly,
—OSWALD WEST,
Governor.

OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT

Name
Address
Nearest railroad station or steamboat landing
Number of men or women needed
Character of work offered
Wages to be paid
With or without board and lodging
How long services, if they prove satisfactory, will likely be needed
This blank to be filled out and mailed to the Governor's Office, Salem, Oregon, that it may be brought to the attention of those seeking employment.

Finer University Is Aim.

Eugene.—"What the board of regents intends to do is to build a university that the state will be proud of for years to come," declared Governor West in explanation of the decision of the regents, who met at the university to delay taking steps for the construction of the \$100,000 building, funds for which were approved by the people at the recent referendum election.

Grants Pass Plans Annual Shoot.

Grants Pass.—The local gun club is making arrangements to hold an annual shoot at this place on December 21. The day's work will include both shotgun and rifle practice. For shotgun practice flying targets will be used. Cash prizes will be offered as well as other prizes yet to be determined.

AN EARLY CHRISTMAS CAROL

By BEN H. LAMPMAN

God rest you, Merry Gentlemen!—
For Christmas draws anigh,
The very stars its portent fling
Across the happy sky.

The wind, that's whirled around the
world,
Bears mumbled bits of prayer
From girls and boys who ask for toys,
Here, there and everywhere.

In every Christian land that lies
Beneath the star strown night,
There are a million childish eyes
Aglow with wistful light.

And there are many little lips
That whisper gentle pleas,
For dolls and drums, and sugar-plums,
And candled Christmas trees.

I guess, at such an hour as this,
Within this very town,
A score or more of little knees
Beside their beds are down.

That, e'er the coverlets are smooth,
When darkness comes with dreams,
The Keeper of the Scroll has smiled
Above his written reams.

For Christmas time is very near,
And very dear, to them,
And they are very like, indeed,
The Boy of Bethlehem!

God rest you, Merry Gentlemen!—
I would not break your peace,
But that you are the stewards of
The happiness of these.

For well you know, that high or low,
Upon the Christmas morn,
'Tis meet that childish joy should greet
The day when Christ was born.

Sure, there is not a one of you
Has grown so bald and dour,
But that he does not call to mind
The Christmas morning hour.

I guess that every one of you
Would rather sponsor joy,
Than mock the faith and merriment
Of any girl or boy;

Than hear one lone, unanswered plea
Go down to childish grief;
Than know the wise old world
Had grown another disbelief.

For Christmas time is very near,
And very dear, to them,
And they are very like, indeed,
The Boy of Bethlehem!

ROSEBURG CONVENTION APPROVES ASHLAND FOR 1915 STATE EXHIBIT

Southern Boys Have Feast of Reason and Lay Plans

The Roseburg convention of Southern Oregon enthusiasts, held in that city on Thursday, December 4th, was attended by hundreds of delegates—practically from every city and hamlet between Portland and Ashland. Harmony was the order of the day, and various plans for the advancement of the state and this district were hopefully launched.

The most important action of the meeting was the unanimous endorsement of the proposal to locate a comprehensive exhibit of state resources at Ashland, during the San Francisco fair in 1915. The locational advantages of Ashland, together with the fact that all through trains make lengthy stops at that point, is such that a state display will attract the admiring attention of every wide-awake tourist—and there will be thousands of them—who takes the northern route to 'Frisco or returning.

The exhibit outlined will cost \$25,000, which amount it is planned to raise early in 1914 from individuals, corporations, and all who are interested, with the understanding that the legislature will be asked to make a similar appropriation for the reimbursing of the contributors. Public sentiment is so strongly in favor of the state exhibit that the raising of the necessary funds is practically assured before undertaking.

Request will be made, in the event that a validating office is necessary during fair year, that Ashland be designated as that point. The railroads will be urged not only to grant fair visitors stop-over privileges in Oregon, but will be asked to instruct their train officials to urge, whenever possible, the traveler or tourist to take advantage of the provision.

Resolutions adopted by the Roseburg convention are significant of the spirit of this movement for Southern Oregon development. Perhaps the key-note of the matter is summed up in the terse concluding paragraph:

"That we cannot have a prosperous state and a really great Pacific coast if the bulk of the people live in the cities."

McMinnville.—"Not Guilty" was the verdict of the jury that sat on the trial of James Hutchens, who was indicted for murder in the first degree for the shooting of Walter A. Rodgers. The jury was out about two hours and when the verdict was read by Judge Holmes the audience handclapped for three minutes.

Union Is Quarantined.

Union.—The city of Union has been placed under quarantine and all places of gathering suppressed, including shows, churches, dances and lodges. These drastic measures were deemed necessary by the city authorities to prevent the further spread of scarlet fever, which has gained considerable headway in the town.

WORK AT CEMENT FACTORY GOING RAPIDLY FORWARD

DR. ARTHUR YAGER



Dr. Arthur Yager, of Kentucky, who is now governor of Porto Rico.

Field Worker L. P. Harrington Talks

Working for the promotion of larger and more representative school fairs, of the type held in this city on September last, L. P. Harrington, field industrial worker for the state department of education, is carrying a campaign for next fall's school gala days throughout the valley the present week.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Harrington, accompanied by county superintendent of schools, J. Percy Wells, was in this city, where he addressed the student body at the high school building upon the importance of the school industrial fair in its relation to a practical education. Mr. Harrington said, in part:

"There has been a decided change, during recent years, in the minds of the people, and of educators in particular, as to what constitutes an education. I like Professor Holden's definition as given in his Portland address, viz., 'That training which will best fit for the duties of life and enable our boys and girls to earn a living.' This agricultural and industrial movement in our schools is calculated to so train our young people.

"It is deservedly receiving much attention in the schools of Oregon. In no state has the movement had more hearty support. County superintendents, supervisors, city superintendents, and teachers generally are co-operating with business men, commercial clubs, and granges in introducing and making the work effective. We can train our young people to be efficient, and no state needs efficiency in the men and women who are to help to develop the country more than does Oregon. We want the cultural, and we must have the practical.

"Teachers can help to interest through the study of the common things supplied largely by the school children. Every garden, field, and orchard has something that can be studied at school. Seeds, grains, grasses, a germinating box, and many other things can be found. Information can be secured through the bulletins from the Department of Agriculture, or the Agricultural College. Use should be made of all this good material, which can be had for the asking.

"The work to be the most helpful must be regular and systematic. Not simply taken up in time to prepare to win a prize at the fair, but all through the year. Now is the time to begin. Have one or more school exhibits in the school building during the year, and invite parents and friends to come in and see what their children can do.

"Gold Hill had a good school fair last year and assisted Jackson county to win a state prize at the Salem contest. They can do much more and better work this year, and many more boys and girls will be ready and willing to have a part. Many of the children in your schools have said that they could and would have a garden of their own at home. Encourage them to do this. Let them have something that is their own.

"Some will be more interested in mechanical work than in agriculture. Your manual training department will direct them in this work. The girls can bake

Crew of Sixty Men Now Engaged at Plant Site

The Beaver Portland cement property is the scene of bustling activity at present, punctuated by the powder blasts that are tearing into the vitals of the big limestone hill, rending the debris piece-meal and otherwise clearing the path to progress. A single blast of 1150 pounds was set off during the noon hour on Monday, further opening up the quarry. It was highly successful shot, throwing tons of rock outward from the face of the wall for a depth of sixteen feet. The opening of the quarry is several hundred feet above the level site upon which the plant will be constructed and to which the mined rock will be conveyed in a pulverized state to the kiln.

Recent additions to the force employed now brings the enrollment above sixty men, with many teams employed in hauling gravel from the river for the construction of foundations. A rock crusher has been shipped in from the Ament power plant, at Grants Pass, for use in construction work.

During the last week five carloads of lumber, a car of tools, and a car of cement, have been unloaded at the siding on the property, and carpenters are busy in the construction of the foundation forms. A temporary office building for the engineers and clerical force has been built upon the grounds, and work well commenced upon the construction of a larger building for permanent office quarters and machine shop.

Work upon the reservoir site, which is excavated a short distance up the hill, is now completed, a concrete retaining wall will be constructed and the five huge water tanks installed which are to figure in the "wet process" system.

Owing to the evil conditions of the unimproved road in the west end of town, teaming progress to the scene of construction has been necessarily slow. A proposal made by chief engineer Dan E. Servey to furnish engineering work gratis for the improvement of the bad strip of city highway is now being considered by the council, and will probably be favorably acted upon.

The influx of strangers, business, professional, and laboring men, brought to the city by the news of construction work upon the \$500,000 cement plant, shows no signs of decrease, and local rooming houses and restaurants are enjoying a heavy trade.

Booze Shipments to "Dry" Territory Held to be Illegal

Portland, Or.—A transportation company is not compelled to accept shipments of liquor into "dry" territory, according to a decision rendered in United States district court by Judge Bean in the case of F. Zimmerman & Co. against the O.W. R. & N. and the Oregon Short Line.

Plaintiff asked that the railroad companies be compelled to accept liquors at Portland, consigned to Heyburn, Idaho. The railroads had refused to accept the shipment because of the Webb-Kenyon act, which prohibits the shipment of liquor into "dry" territory from another state.

Judge Bean in his decision says that while the Webb-Kenyon law has been held unconstitutional by one of the lower courts of Iowa, the supreme court of Delaware, the only court of last resort which to his knowledge has passed on the act, has held the law to be constitutional.

and sew, and mother must be patient and let them try.

"In no schools have I found more interest than in Gold Hill. You can have a school fair here that will be a factor in your growth and development. Nothing connected with your school building shows a spirit of progress and growth. The new building occupied by the high school and most of the grades is a model of neatness and good order and a veritable bee hive of industry.

"I look for great things from this part of Jackson county. Your efforts will be more than compensated for in the strength it will give your boys and girls and the 'training' they will get."

Both Mr. Harrington and Superintendent Wells spoke briefly at the Wego the same evening, addressing citizens who are interested in the industrial fair program.