

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY, BY THE East Oregonian Publishing Company, PENDLETON, OREGON.

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RIDDLEBERGER is obstreperous again, and had to be threatened Thursday with removal from the Senate.

R. H. DEARBORN has been appointed postmaster at Salem, in the place of W. H. Odell, whose term had expired. The appointment is said to give general satisfaction.

The Democratic caucus has agreed to support an omnibus admission bill, providing for the admission of Washington, Montana, New Mexico, and Dakota as either one or two States.

The Mayorship lies between Mayor Matlock and J. B. Eldy, unless some new candidate gets into the race. For Councilmen, R. Sargent, R. G. Thompson, E. M. Wheeler, and Lot Livermore are mentioned. All good men.

The Salem Statesman says that the proposition to hold a term of the Supreme Court at some point in Eastern Oregon is fair, and just to this portion of the State. "By all means," says the Statesman, let the people of Eastern Oregon have a session of the Supreme Court in their section.

After the election Anna Dickinson sued the Republican National Committee for her services as a speaker, alleging that they refused to pay her in full. Chairman Quay now says they agreed to pay her to keep still, which she wouldn't do. The Alta remarks that when she hears of this, the last state of that man will be worse than the first.

The Yakima Signal, which is edited by a Rev. Van Tyne, has been severely criticizing the Golden Gate Sentinel for its appearance and make-up, and among other things because it has "a five-column head on an eight-column paper." The Sentinel, which was burned out a few months ago and is manfully struggling to get a "good hold" again, admits the charge, and pleads that its "head" will soon be changed, and adds that Palmer & Rey cannot change the five-column brain of Rev. Van Tyne to fit his eight-column head.

THE TAX QUESTION.

"Willits" Opposes a Deduction, and a State Board, but Favors Precinct Assessors. Illustrations of How the State is Swindled.

MUD CREEK, Or., Dec. 12, 1888.

To the Editor of the East Oregonian. A circular letter issued from your office, which no doubt is being sent out to all the wise heads (with bald knobs) in the county, asking them to spell out in a calm, deliberate way their dispassionate and unbiased opinions of the "tax law," past, present, and what in their individual minds seems meet for the best interests of the future, by some mistake of your mailing clerk came to my address, which he must have found on the "testimonial" page of some patent medicine almanac. The subject is an interesting one, and if my opinions are worth a darn, here they are:

1. How can a full and fair assessment of property be secured? "Fo' do Lo'd massa dat's a singer." By passing a law to make all men morally honest, especially when the assessor calls. To further aid the work, elect honest, intelligent, and competent men to office, clothed with authority to swear men before and behind, and if need be in the middle of the sermon. Let there be a specified time when the assessment shall begin, say April 1st, as it does in Washington Territory, so that men along the State line will not keep their stock dodging from one side to another.

2. What sorts of property should be the subjects of taxation? If any should be exempted, what, and why? I am in favor of taxing everything from a ten thousand dollar church to a four-bit dog. I believe it is right to levy tribute on all property (save school houses and county buildings.) All are equally protected by law, and all should bear equally their share of the county's burdens. "County warrants," or "scrip," should not be allowed to escape the eagle-eyed assessor. I can't see why a man who invests \$10,000 in county scrip should be entitled to a free ride in the county's chariot any more than he who invests the

same amount in any other speculative venture.

3. Are you in favor of a State Board of Equalization? If so, wherein will it work a benefit? I am not. What in the name of common sense would a State board, composed of men west of the mountains, know of the relative value of land, one tract situate in the northeast corner of Umatilla county, 45 miles from a county seat, and 400 miles from a capital, and another in Linn county? They would be as incapable of judging of their relative values as I would of a diamond of the first water, and a ten-cent piece in a mud hole. In my opinion the county board, as now composed, is best.

4. Are you in favor of precinct, instead of county, assessors? Yes, I believe all the property can be better reached. It is easier to lie to a stranger than to one you are well acquainted with. There is no more reason for having one assessor than there would be for having one road supervisor to look after all the roads in the county. District, as provided in the commission bill.

5. Are you in favor of a graduated income tax; and, if so, how can it be assessed and collected? Your fifth question about a "graduated income tax" I am not well enough informed about to hazard an opinion, since I quit gambling and tipping.

6. What are your views upon the "single-tax" theory, or the placing of taxation upon land values only? In moderate language, I think it's a most gigantic humbug. What's the matter with the stock men, merchants, and bankers, yea, the bankers, with their thousands invested in notes, stocks, and exchange? Why not tax them a little, as well as the poor devil who has chanced to squat on a little tract of worthless land?

7. Do you think the bill prepared by the tax commission of 1886 an improvement upon our present law? In what would you recommend a change in it? "The bill prepared by the tax commission of 1886" I know nothing about, our Legislature either being at "outs" with the State Printer, or fearing they would reduce the country to a state of penury, had so few of the "session" laws printed that common individuals could not obtain one. I am in favor of having, say 100 copies of the laws passed each session printed for distribution by each member among his constituents.

8. Are you in favor of "deductions for indebtedness?" No, most emphatically, no. A grander and more wholesale swindle was never perpetrated upon an unsuspecting people. To illustrate, the assessment of property in Washington Territory is made on the 1st day of April. A few days thereafter I go to a trusted friend and give him my note, payable in Oregon for an amount sufficient to cover my assessment. He lives out of the State, and as a consequence can't reach him. You get nothing from him, neither from me. After I am assessed I go and get the note, only to repeat the swindle next year. Again, we people living contiguous to Walla Walla are forced to do our trading there. We buy farm machinery there and owe for it there, but we are assessed for it here, while those who buy in Portland get the benefit of the deduction, although the amount is lost to the county, and generally to the State, for that matter, the same as if it were purchased in the Territory.

Dispatching, thus briefly, a few random thoughts on this important subject, "I submit the floor to more able speakers." WILLIS.

SAT DOWN ON HIM HARD.

A Narrative Related Thursday Evening by Rev. Mr. Hollis.

Rev. Mr. Hollis, a Walla Walla minister of the Campbellite faith, has been holding meetings in the court house for the past several days. The old gentleman is a peculiar but forcible talker, and is evidently in love with his work. His sermons are very interesting, whether or not one is in sympathy with his views. An anecdote related at Thursday evening's meeting will bear repeating: He and a physician and another gentleman were sitting in a railroad car. The latter was a horse-dealer, and had made a splendid trade on the past Sabbath. For this the physician, a member of the church, had been soundly berating him. Finally the horse-dealer concluded to get even, and asked the doctor if he didn't practice medicine and get paid for it on Sunday. This was a corker that the physician wasn't prepared to answer. The horseman then turned to Elder Hollis with a triumphant smile and asked if he didn't have the doctor cornered. "Yes," assented the reverend, "you have certainly got him in a tight place, and you are perfectly correct," at which the face of the dealer in horses became radiant with the consciousness of his victory and of its approval by the preacher. "But you must not forget," continued Hollis, "that you don't belong to God Almighty's kingdom, and it makes no difference what you do on Sunday, as you are outside the pale of His laws. You belong to an entirely different kingdom, that of his Satanic Majesty; he is your master, and he you are serving when you trade horses on the Sabbath."

What the feelings of the horseman were after this homily the reverend gentleman did not explain.

The Hotel of Salem.

The Chemekete Hotel at Salem has lately come under the management of C. H. Monroe and J. R. S. Bell and has furnished and thoroughly changed from top to bottom, the kitchen having been entirely rebuilt and the lobby and rooms overhauled and put in first class order for the coming session of the legislature. The prices of accommodation will average from \$6 to \$15 per week according to room and location. The patronage of the public is solicited.

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SAMPLE ROOMS FOR COMMERCIAL MEN.

Free Coach to and from Trains.

Bucks for Sale!

An Administrator of the estate of the late William Ross, the undersigned will sell during the next two months all the bucks recently owned by said deceased, the same being

2000 Thoroughbred Registered and Grade Bucks.

These bucks are kept in good pasture, near Albia, Oregon, and are in fine condition and thoroughly sound. The undersigned will visit Albia every Wednesday, and meet any parties wishing to see the stock before purchasing. Easy terms will be extended to purchasers. For particulars address R. G. THOMPSON, Administrator, AUGUST 10th Pendleton, Oregon.

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Call on us during the Holidays and buy your

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We are selling furniture, bedding, Window Shades and doing Upholstering cheaper than ever. Don't fail to see our stock before buying.

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Family Groceries a Specialty. GOODS DELIVERED FREE OF CHARGE. MAIN STREET, - - - - - PENDLETON, OREGON

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Owing to a contemplated change in our business, we will for the

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AT COST. Consisting of Books by popular authors, Juvenile Books, Christmas Cards, Booklets, Albums, Plush Goods, etc., etc. Leading Periodicals in stock.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

J. L. KILLIAN, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE and Notary Public, Vasey's Office, Collecting a specialty. Filings on received, and final proofs taken at rates.

JOB PRINTING CAN BE HAD AT THE EAST OREGONIAN office at prices that will prove they are cheaper than any other printing house in Eastern Oregon.

LEGAL BLANKS.

More than two hundred forms of blanks at this office. Lawyers and other needing special forms can be supplied.

WILLIAM ROENCH, PROPRIETOR of the City Brewery, Court Street, Pendleton, Oregon. All orders for our beer and promptly delivered.

ESTRAY ANIMALS.

If you have an animal stray, you can cover him by expending \$2.00 in advance in the EAST OREGONIAN. It costs nothing every time.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS.

Notice is hereby given that an order will be passed by the Common Council of the town of Pendleton, grading the street from W. 11th street, grading and paving the street from Litch street, in the side of Jane street, and build sidewalks both sides from Litch to Jane street, grading only of the remainder of said street from the west side of Jane street to the east boundary of the town of Pendleton, and no removals made by the owners of at least two-thirds of the land fronting said street be filed with the City Clerk within ten days after the first publication of this notice.

By order of the town council. Dated December 10, 1888. J. R. WILSON, Town Clerk.

---BUY---

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