



## TAXES SHOULD BE EQUALIZED

Large Land Owners Not Paying Their Share Says Perkins

### THINKS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PORT

EDITOR RECORDER:—Mr. Haberly takes the position, that this question of a Port of Coquille has resolved itself into a question as to whether (1) a port would be a profitable investment—(2) whether the burden of expense would be equitably distributed.

The first point will not be discussed much, it is for each and every man to decide for himself, but Mr. Haberly's position toward this second point is a little bewildering. When he starts to discuss this second point, he takes this position, "It is true that the burden of taxes is not equitably distributed, it would be a grave mistake." Now this is either a flat acknowledgment, that if this condition can be proven, it is a grave mistake to go into this scheme or it is a mere juggle with words and his abandonment of the second point he raised himself by saying it is "all together foreign to this port commission law," makes him appear illogical.

We will discuss this question from this position "It is true that the burden of taxes is not equitably distributed it would be a grave mistake." It is hard to comprehend why this is a strong point in favor of this law, for in it we find no power given this commission to adjust valuations, they must place their levy on the valuations made by assessor, neither does it come within the power of this official to adjust the most flagrant violations of fair valuations. The only way it can be brought about is to cruise the timber holdings of these corporations.

There are two reasons for these inequalities of valuation. First, almost all of these large holdings are subsidy lands, granted to railroad companies, and the Coos Bay and Roseburg wagon road and have never been cruised. Second, the owners of the lands that have been cruised will not give the assessor a correct statement, and that official can not go about cruising timber holdings. We must have a county court that will have the courage to have this done at once, so the assessor will have a basis on which to place valuation on these large holdings.

The timber lands in this county are the largest assets in the county but the conditions are such that the owners of this great wealth pay, comparatively, a small portion of the taxes, and the only way to get at it is as stated above.

If we succeed in showing that the above statements are correct, we expect Mr. Haberly to get on the other side of the fence, for he should not want to make a grave mistake.

The improved lands in Coquille valley are assessed at a valuation of \$80 per acre, the unimproved lands at \$40 per acre. The average in the county is \$57 per acre. The timber lands average less than \$12 per acre, so it takes about 5 acres of timber land to pay as much tax as one acre of farm land. There is a lady on the river who received \$17,000 stumpage from 160 acres, or more than \$100 per acre, and the land left. A farmer will work very hard for several years to do as well, and all the time is paying five times

## HILL TO BUILD RAILROAD LINE HERE

Says Portland Report, Which is Said to Be on Good Authority

Portland, Or., March 29—That Hill will build an east and west line of railway across Central Oregon from Ontario to Coos County was stated on good authority during the past week. The projected line will connect with the Grand Trunk, the Hill road now being built up the Deschutes, and with the Oregon Electric in the Willamette valley believed to be another Hill property.

This will mean a gridiron of new railroads for Oregon during the coming few years that will bring about a development in this state never before approached. About all Oregon needs is railroads; it has everything else but people and the railroads will bring them.

as much tax on the same amount of land. There is a little strawberry farm of about 18 acres near Myrtle Point, that pays as much tax as 500 acres of the Southern Pacific timber lands.

C. A. Smith & Co. has 65,000 acres of timber land tributary to Coquille river that crised 4,502,000,000 feet merchantable timber so the Sentinel correspondent stated, if you allow one dollar stumpage, which is only one half the amount being paid you have an actual valuation of \$4,502,000. Now the assessed valuation is about \$1,500,000 on all the Smith Co.'s holdings in the county, and they have 21,000 acres timber, and two large saw mills on Coos bay, this company pays less than \$30,000 taxes.

The Southern Pacific owns 107,000 acres in this county which no doubt will cruise as much as Smith and Co.'s 65,000 acres, the assessed valuation on this property is less than \$1,500,000 and they pay less than \$28,000 taxes.

There is no doubt that the Southern Oregon Co.'s 85,000 acres timber land will cruise as much as the 65,000 acres spoken of the valuation on this is about \$100,000, they pay less than \$25,000 taxes.

All four mills on the river pay less than \$1,300.

The Coach timber holdings of 4247 acres on Lampa creek, pays about 23 cents tax per acre, the farm lands adjoining pays \$1.10 per acre.

The statement of the correspondent mentioned is borne out by this fact. Township 30 S, R 10 west was cruised by county cruiser and found to contain 1,300,850,000 at a valuation of 18 cents per thousand.

If this scheme of direct taxation is resorted to, to improve this river the burden of paying for it will fall on the ranchers and small home owners in the proportion of from 4 to 1 to 10 to 1 as against the large property owners who are best able to pay for it.

If this does not show unequal valuation consequently unequal taxation, it is up to Mr. Haberly to show why, although this Port Commission may have its merits, it is premature until we get this question of valuation adjusted, so these wealthy timber owners may pay their fair share.

So it behooves us to get a move on us, and have these timber holdings cruised, so that these corporations may be assessed according to actual valuation, for at present rate of progress, and the natural increase in operations, the timber which is tributary to Coquille river will have all disappeared, in thirty years, according to estimates of conservative men, who have followed the lumber business for a life time.

## Paper For Lakeport

Vol. 1, No. 1 of the Floras Lake Banner reached our exchange table Monday evening of this week and is a very newsy sheet and will no doubt represent the interests of the new city in a very creditable manner. The publishers are Smith & Quarles, the former of whom is a newspaper man of wide experience according to report. In their opening number they announce that the policy of the paper will be to boost both Coos and Curry counties which is a very laudable ambition and one that should meet with success.

The Bandon RECORDER welcomes the Floras Lake Banner into the newspaper fraternity of southwest Oregon and may success crown the efforts of the publishers.

A. J. Counts, supervisor of this road district brought his amachine in and hitched John Jenkins' team to it and graded down the race course around the high school grounds last Sunday so that it is now perfectly level. The boys appreciate their fine track very much and are improving the time on it. The high school had a half holiday Tuesday, as a result of twenty days school with no tardy marks, and the boys held a track meet and a number of the athletes made some fine records. The boys are hopeful of good results at the county high school field meet.

If fifty years ago the lumbermen of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin had been told that the timber would be gone by this time some would have laughed at it, just as some will laugh here, but we know it disappeared, and we must not let this great wealth escape without paying its full share to improve our roads, schools and river.

The law requires that property shall be assessed at its true cash value, and this is held to mean the "amount such property would sell for at a voluntary sale made in the ordinary course of business."

If this were as nearly done by timber lands, as is done by farm lands, we would get \$300,000 in taxes from the timber holding in this county.

From the standpoint of the speculator, or the man who has an ax to grind; this scheme looks inviting also the man who is cutting his land into lots for sale, and the boomer, who is merely a transient, look with favor on anything that will inflate values, especially if it does not cost him much. But the home builder whether in the town or on the farm, views this matter in an altogether different light.

The farmer receives no greater returns when the valuation is \$100 dollars per acre, than if the valuation is at \$50 per acre. The home owner in the town derives no greater comfort from his home if the valuation is high, than if it is low, higher valuation only means higher taxes.

Someone made the assertion in the RECORDER last issue that the ranchers would receive more benefits than any other people. We are from Missouri "you will have to show us" A mere assertion to that effect is not convincing.

Any intelligent Coos county farmer knows that we cannot compete with California in growing vegetables for the market. In a great portion of that state two crops are grown on the same ground in the same season.

We will support for the sake of argument that the work done by Port Commission would reduce the freight rates of both lumbermen and merchants, is there any assurance that we would get cheaper goods or that the men who work in the mills

## COMMERCIAL CLUB IS STILL BUSY

Work on Many Projects for Bettering Conditions In Bandon

The commercial club, at its regular session, Friday night, continued the boosting work that is being carried on under the direction of the club and all will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

The subject most under discussion was that of better mail service, and a committee was appointed to look into the proposed change of mail routes, for getting mail into Coos county, and the consensus of opinion was that the club would enter protest against any change that would further delay the getting of mail into Coos county. A petition was also circulated to be sent to the department at Washington for a daily mail service out of Bandon down the coast, instead of a three times a week service as we now have.

The beach sidewalk was again discussed and the committee instructed to push the work as rapidly as possible.

Treasurer, R. M. Pressey reported a balance of \$73.75 in the treasury.

A committee was appointed to confer with the Farmers' Telephone Co. to ascertain their desires and object of coming into Bandon, and to render any assistance possible in bettering our telephone connections.

There was not quite as large an attendance as usual, there being only about 15 or 20 present. The club will meet again next Friday night when there should be a full attendance of all members and all business men who are interested in the upbuilding of the city and surrounding community.

The good roads proposition was also taken up at the last meeting, and Dr. Houston was appointed on a committee to confer with the people of the Four Mile district regarding improvements of the road which are to be made in that section.

## Card of Thanks

For all the kind and loving sympathy shown us in our bereavement and for the beautiful flowers brought we wish to thank all our friends and neighbors.

MRS. CROSMAN TIMMONS,  
ETHEL TIMMONS,  
FRANK TIMMONS.

mills and logging camps would get better wages? We can remember when this town went dry, the special tax was put on, when they wanted it wet again they promised cheaper goods, did any one ever hear of goods going down?

The arguments for this Port Commission look very much like the argument put forward at the time of tariff discussion that to vote to keep up high protective tariff would keep full dinner pails, also better wages, but who ever heard of this kind of people dividing up with the working man?

Mr. Haberly labors under a misapprehension about the recall, an appointed man can not be recalled, there will be no man on this commission that can be recalled, until we have elected two, and then the majority of this board will still have two years to run this thing.

Let every man who reads this remember that he will get just one vote, for or against this Port Commission, never a vote on tax.

FRED N. PERKINS.

## C. TIMMONS DIES SUDDENLY

Found Dead in His Bed Monday Morning at His Home

### WAS PROMINENT IN BUSINESS CIRCLES

The community was greatly shocked Monday morning when the news was spread abroad that Crosman Timmons was dead, as he had been in his usual good health, except for a slight cold and his sudden passing away was entirely unexpected.

Mr. Timmons was a man widely known in business circles of Oregon and the northwest, and it could be said of him that he had no enemies.

Deceased was born in Bath, Maine, March 30th 1840 and died in Bandon, March 28th 1910, age 70 years and 8 days. He was a veteran of the civil war, being a member of company B. 7th Maine volunteers. He enlisted in the early part of the war and served to the end. He was a prisoner of war for 10 months, being imprisoned at Savannah and other prisons, and so great was his suffering while in prison that he weighed only 97 pounds when he was released.

After the close of the war Mr. Timmons returned to his home in Maine and came to the Pacific coast in 1867, and has made his home at Astoria most of the time since. He was at first a fisherman and afterward bought an interest in a cannery on the Columbia river. He was also superintendent of a cannery in Alaska for some time and owned an interest in a cannery in British Columbia.

He bought the cannery of the Gilstrap packing company of Prosper in 1894, this cannery burned and he built the Bandon cannery in 1895, operating the same every year until last year when he sold the machinery to the Coquille River Canning Co. He then put up the new Timmons building which is one of the best structures in this city.

Mr. Timmons was married in 1880 to Miss Jennie Rich. They have two children, Frank and Miss Ethel, both of whom are living and together with Mrs. Timmons were at home when the end came.

The funeral was conducted in the Episcopal church Tuesday afternoon by Archdeacon Horsfall and interment was made in the G. A. R. cemetery. Mr. Timmons was a member of the Masonic lodge and G. A. R. and both organizations attended in a body.

The elaborate floral contributions showed the high esteem in which the deceased was held by the people of Bandon.

The sorrowing family have the sincere sympathy of the entire community in their great bereavement.

## A Week of Pleasure

At the opera house beginning Sunday night Apr. 3rd the Gorman Ford Co. of New York will play a week's engagement, presenting modern dramas of the cleanest type together with bright, catchy vaudeville specialties between the acts.

The company consists of eleven people and the pieces presented are staged in the most thorough and artistic manner.

Admission 25, 35 and 50 cents. Reserved seats on sale at Mars' all week.

## BANDON TO HAVE A LARGE BAND

Greatest Musical Organization in Southwest Oregon

For several months Professor Kausrud and Manager Topping of the Bandon Concert Band have been planning to augment that already efficient and well known musical organization, and have recently formulated plans to carry out such augmentation by drawing largely upon the local talent; and with this end in view Prof. Kausrud has extended his service free of charge to reliable, ambitious young men who wish to take up music as an accomplishment, with the aid of Mr. Topping instruments have been supplied, on reasonable terms to those who have been willing to purchase them, thereby enabling the applicants to get first class instruments.

The results attained from this experiment have been remarkable, and the plan has proven a crowning success, the public will soon have an opportunity to hear the initial concert of the largest band that has ever played in Bandon.

When the present number of recruits are added the band will number in all 36 players, in addition to which seven more are now waiting to be assigned places, which will be done as soon as Prof. Kausrud can arrange; the best of progress is being made by the new members who meet from two to three times a week for lessons both private and in assembly work, the first appearance of the entire organization is set for Memorial day at which time they also hope to be out in new uniform.

The Bandon Concert Band has stood at the head of musical organizations in this part of the state for some time, and with the present energy and interest shown, together with the continued support of the public heretofore enjoyed with the added support and influence of the friends of the band it is needless to say this excellent organization has a very brilliant future and let us add that it has heretofore and now merits the hearty cooperation of the entire city and should be encouraged and assisted by all.

## M. E. Church Notes

The ladies of the M. E. church will have an old fashioned social at the residence of Dr. Rossiter on Friday evening April 8th to which the public are cordially invited.

Sunday was a red letter day in the history of Methodism in Bandon. The attendance at Sunday School was the largest it has been for years and at the morning services, after a sermon on the Resurrection of Christ, the pastor raised by subscriptions \$58 for the benevolences of the church. In the evening the Sunday school gave their Easter program to an audience which filled the church. Standing room was at a premium and several were unable to get in at all.

Services on Sunday as follows: Sunday School at 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m.; Epworth League at 7 p. m.; preaching at 8 p. m. Special music at both preaching services. Come and worship with us.

R. H. ALLEN, Pastor.

The writer had the pleasure of sampling some very fine radishes grown by Dr. Greek and they certainly tasted like more.

Tag day last Saturday was a great success. More about it next week.