



125TH ANNIVERSARY.

WHERE IS THE ECONOMY?

We are told that a special session of the legislature will result in the lopping off of \$50,000 of expense to the state this coming year. Investigation discloses the fact that this sum represents fees and perquisites now being drawn by the various state officers. Moreover, this \$50,000, or the great bulk of it, comes out of the pockets of corporations and private individuals, and lopping it off will not lessen the burden on the taxpayer in the least. But the acceptance of fees or perquisites, from whatever source, by state officers is a violation of the constitution. Then the new legislature can put a stop to this unconstitutional proceeding immediately, and the "saving" can be made as completely and as effectively as a special session could make it.

As for flat salaries, the constitution already provides for them. To be sure the salaries provided by that document are ridiculously small in some instances, but the legislature has no power to raise them without a constitutional amendment.

On this point, Congressman-elect J. N. Williamson, who is a member of the legislature, representing Wasco, Crook, Lake and Klamath counties, pertinently remarks:

"The first thing we will do down at Salem next winter is to hold up our hands and swear that during our deliberations we will support the constitution of the state of Oregon, which will either result in some very modest salaries, or a stretching of that old and badly outgrown document until it is very thin in spots."

We fail to see the economy in holding a special session of the legislature next year at an expense of \$15,000 or \$20,000 to taxpayers, even if it should result in a saving of \$50,000, as is claimed, to corporations and private individuals.

The re-appointment of Mr. B. W. Johnson to succeed himself as postmaster in this city is a nice compliment to that gentleman's efficiency in that position, and just recognition of his careful and obliging service for the past four years. When he was named for this place by President McKinley in the summer of 1897, there was strong opposition and the senate withheld its endorsement for some time. Mr. Johnson's appointment was made this time, however, without the aid of petitions or special effort of his friends, and the senate approved it without hesitation.

The Salem Journal answers the GAZETTE's editorial inquiry for the economy in a special session of the legislature next spring, by saying:

"As the editor of the above paper cannot trust his readers with the facts as to the present fees, perquisites, emoluments, compensations, and indirect financial grafts of over a hundred different sorts and descriptions, what is the use in answering the above?"

Convincing, isn't it?

By Way of Correction.

Corvallis, Or., July 3, 1902.

EDITOR GAZETTE:

In the GAZETTE of July 1st, Dr. Davis says that the Coast Land & Live Stock Co.'s lands, for which he is agent, were assessed for 1901 at \$1.25 per acre, and that I had said they were assessed at 80 cents per acre. I did not say that. I said they were assessed at an average of 80 cents per acre. Which if I figure it right must be true. On pages 168 and 169 of the Benton county tax roll for 1901, those lands are assessed, 16.40 acres at \$1.37, or an average of something less than 80 cents per acre. If they had been assessed as Mr. Davis says they were, at \$1.25 per acre then they would have aggregated \$20,501.25 and would have brought the county about one-third more taxes than this company paid. The O. & C. lands were assessed for 1901 at \$1.35 per acre on 55,559 acres, making \$75,004.65 and then tax of \$3,044.94 was paid at that rate, whereas, the company of which Dr. Davis is agent, gets off at an average of about 80 cents per acre.

The O. & C. R. R. Co. assessment is at

page 168 to 169 of the Benton county tax roll for 1901, and any one can examine the two assessments and see who is correct about it.

I conceive this to be a matter of public concern and one in which all taxpayers are interested.

Dr. Davis also mentions that no business man pays invalid claims against his property, but he does not point out wherein the taxes now delinquent on the Benton county tax roll against the property known as the "Hogg" lands, are invalid. Can he do so? If the taxes against these lands are invalid then so must all other taxes on those rolls have been invalid. But is this claim sincere? Dr. Davis bid at the tax sale for 1896 taxes \$822.81 of these same taxes, including a few dollars costs, and he had the same information concerning their validity then that he can now have, yet he paid for his purchase. He must have believed the claims valid then or he, (being a business man,) would not have paid that money. But now, having got his residence property for that bid, he says in his letter in the GAZETTE of July 1st: "I shall certainly enforce the return if those taxes are proven invalid."

He got the residence property on a tax sale. Now he seems to want to get back the money he paid for it. Then who gets the residence property?

Dr. Davis also speaks about the good faith of the Astoria Co. in taking these lands out of the hands of the court. Now let us examine that. I can only speak from the county records, but they give some interesting information.

On July 8th, 1900, a deed was recorded, Book 38, page 493, Benton county deed records, dated April 11, 1900, from Arthur H. Masten, receiver, to The Astoria Co., conveying the forty odd thousand acres of lands formerly held in trust by Geo. S. One, and also the twenty acres in the west side of Corvallis, known as the "Hogg place," and the depot property, and the "Hogg" residence property, where Dr. Davis lives in Corvallis. The consideration in this deed was \$1 and other good and valuable considerations. And the deed says it is "Subject however to all tax liens, encumbrances, and assessments thereon of every kind and nature whatsoever." This deed carries a \$5 cancelled revenue stamp, indicating that the Astoria Co. paid \$5,000 for this property, to the receiver. It did not require much "good faith" one would think, to induce one to get property worth \$60,000 or \$70,000 for \$5,000! But was the Astoria Co. stuck, as Dr. Davis' letter would seem to imply?

The Astoria Co. conveyed this property or nearly all of it, to the company now asking to settle its taxes for this tremendous reduction, by a deed which says \$1 consideration and which bears \$12 cancelled revenue stamps indicating a consideration of \$12,000 or a profit of \$7,000 within less than a year after taking the lands out of the hands of the court. Was the Astoria Co. so badly used as Dr. Davis would have us believe?

The plain, naked truth is that these lands have been assessed just as other lands of like character have been assessed for the five years for which their taxes are delinquent. The tax is just as honestly and legitimately due Benton county as any other tax on those rolls, and for Dr. Davis, or this company, to attempt to get out of paying this tax in full is unjust to other taxpayers who have paid their taxes uncomplainingly, no matter how hard pressed.

It is said that this company has negotiated a sale of all the lands to Eastern parties at a price two or three times greater than the assessed value, but that they have to square up the back taxes first. It is right that they should do so. It would not be right for them to be released of this debt while others have to pay in full.

Vote on "Initiative and Referendum."

I, F. I. DUNBAR, Secretary of State of the State of Oregon, pursuant to the provisions of an act of the Legislative Assembly, entitled "An Act submitting to the electors of the State of Oregon at the general election to be held on the first Monday in June, 1902, the pending proposed constitutional amendment," do hereby certify that the following is the result of the canvass of the vote of the various counties in this state upon the "Initiative and Referendum Amendment," submitted at the general election of June 2nd, 1902, as shown by the abstract of votes cast in each county at said election upon said amendment, as certified to me by each county clerk in this state, to-wit:

County.	Yes.	No.	Electors voting.
Baker	2,407	240	2,649
Benton	1,119	143	1,262
Butte	1,119	143	1,262
Chickamauga	3,644	217	3,861
Clatsop	1,583	116	1,699
Columbia	914	90	1,004
Cook	1,582	89	1,671
Crook	607	92	699
Curry	355	19	374
Douglas	2,473	108	2,581
Gilliam	592	57	649
Grant	865	179	1,044
Harney	522	21	543
Jackson	1,437	138	1,575
Josephine	1,067	110	1,177
Klamath	519	92	611
Lake	446	48	494
Lane	3,120	309	3,429
Lincoln	1,437	67	1,504
Linn	2,118	365	2,483
Naselle	613	74	687
Oregon	2,118	365	2,483
Morrow	757	40	797
Multnomah	12,910	129	13,039
Polk	1,609	173	1,782
Sherman	403	88	491
Tillamook	582	97	679
Union	2,716	176	2,892
Wasco	1,801	124	1,925
Washington	2,381	340	2,721
Wheeler	327	22	349
Yamhill	2,215	91	2,306
Totals	62,624	5,688	68,312

F. I. DUNBAR, Secretary of State.

S. L. Kline, agent for Osborne Binders, Mowers and Hay Rakes. Full line of Groceries. Highest price paid for Wool.

Soft Harness

You can make your harness as soft as a glove and as tough as wire by using **EUREKA Harness Oil**. You can make it last as long as it ever lasted.

EUREKA Harness Oil

Makes a poor looking harness like new. Made of pure heavy bodied oil. It is specially prepared to withstand the weather.

Sold everywhere in cans—all sizes.

Made by **STANDARD OIL CO.**

M. A. Goodnough

Dealer in

Pianos, Organs, Violins, Guitars,

and small instruments of all description. Manufacturers agents for the

World - Famous

Needham

Pianos and Organs

which have a world-wide reputation for their tone, action and durability. I also sell the best automatic piano-player on the market today—the **Paragon**.

Office and residence one block west of court house.

Assessment for Sewer.

Notice is hereby given that the assessment made by Ordinance No. 117, for the construction of a sewer through Block 29, in the manner provided by Ordinance No. 104, in each of the following mentioned lots and parts of lots, was entered in the docket of the City of Corvallis, on the 18th day of June, 1902, and is due and payable at the office of the City Treasurer of Corvallis, in United States gold or silver coin, and if not paid on or before the 5th day of July, 1902, the Common Council will order warrants to be issued to the Chief of Police for the collection thereof together with interest thereon at eight per cent per annum from that date and costs of collection, viz:

Block	Lot	Assessment
13	1, F. H. Mills	\$19.91
13	2, Henrietta E. Dilley	91.91
13	3, Melissa E. Cameron	91.91
13	4, Melissa E. Cameron	57.91
13	10, Mary L. Webster	91.91
13	11, Mary A. Wilkins	91.91
13	12, Mary A. Wilkins	91.91
13	13, Lillian N. Lake	91.91
13	14, Lillian N. Lake	91.91
13	15, Lillian N. Lake	91.91
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13	99, Lillian N. Lake	91.91
13	100, Lillian N. Lake	91.91

By order of the Common Council of Corvallis.

E. P. GREFFOZ, Police Judge.

Corvallis, Oregon, June 13, 1902.

Assessment for Sewer.

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13	100, Lillian N. Lake	91.91

By order of the Common Council of Corvallis.

E. P. GREFFOZ, Police Judge.

Corvallis, Oregon, June 13, 1902.

Notice for Publication.

United States Land Office, Oregon City, Oregon, June 10, 1902.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1902.

GEORGE A. WHEELER, of Portland, county of Multnomah, State of Oregon has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 5778, for the purchase of the N. W. 1/4 of Section No. 14 in Township No. 3 S., Range No. 7 W., and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Saturday, the 30th day of August, 1902.

He names as witnesses: Eliza V. Spencer of Astoria, Oregon; Frank Klecker of Astoria, Oregon; Samuel S. Ewing of Philomath, Oregon; Charles H. Chipman of Corvallis, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 30th day of August, 1902.

CHAS. B. MOORE, Register.

Foley's Kidney Cure makes kidneys and bladder right.</