

Wallowa County Chieftain

County Pioneer Paper

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1909.

THE TAX MUDDLE.

The tax muddle caused by the decision of the supreme court that the plan of apportioning the state tax among the counties in ratio to county expenses, is unconstitutional, will be cured by the emergency law passed last Thursday. The equalization board created by it will meet Wednesday of this week and attempt to apportion the tax according to the true valuation.

If the board accepts the returns by the various assessors as the true valuation, Wallowa's proportion of the state tax will be increased over six thousand dollars, and, for example, Union's will be decreased \$13,000.

The reason is just this: A lot of office holders in Oregon have violated their oath of office. The members of the county courts and the assessors of Wallowa and Union counties took the same oath of office. They swore they would have the property in their respective counties assessed at its true cash valuation. This was done in Wallowa county by the court and Assessor Pace, who think it is dishonorable to break an oath to obey the law.

In Union it seems to be different. Union has twice the population of Wallowa has less assessed valuation. No one in La Grande would admit for an instant but that Union's true valuation is two and a half or three times that of Wallowa.

Union is a type of most Oregon counties, though a few returned true valuations like this county. A few prosecutions for violations of oaths of office is in order.

The board to sit Wednesday has the power to go back of the assessors' returns and by other evidence get at the respective true valuations. It is to be hoped it will make a thorough job of it, and in its report show up the dishonest courts and assessors—for a man who violates an oath of office is dishonest.

VALUE OF TIMBER LANDS.

If the reported sale of the Crosssett Timber company's holdings in this county to the Palmer Lumber company for \$700,000 is correct, it sheds a new light on the true valuation of timber lands for assessment. Identically it is pretty evidence for the county, in the appeals to the circuit court by the timber companies from the county board of equalization's ruling that Assessor Pace's valuation of timber lands in this county at \$6.25 per acre is not excessive or unfair.

The Crosssett Timber company is assessed at \$231,125, which at the \$10.90 per quarter rate, indicated it owned about 37,000 acres. It added considerably to its holdings since last March but hardly reached the amount stated in the dispatch, 50,000 acres. But even so, the reputed sale at \$700,000 would be \$14 an acre valuation.

The published lists of assessed valuations are better than an old fashioned Sunday school story book as a moral object lesson. They also show what a false dame rumor is. Common report says Mr. So and So is "worth" so many thousand dollars, but the cold figures of the assessor, made under oath as the true valuation, proves Mr. So and So is worth only one-third or one-fourth the amount rumor gave.

Brother Jonas of the Wallowa Sun is still sour and disgruntled about the county high school. The latter, however, is flourishing up to the

hopes of its most sanguine friends, in spite of Mr. Jonas' ill-natured flings, and is doing a noble work in the education of the youth from all parts of the county.

A bill requiring timber to be cruised for assessment purposes has passed the house, but is held up in the senate. It will likely be killed in committee as all "the big timber companies are opposing it." The initiative will cure that old, familiar legislative disease. Orton's bill to tax corporations is also reported killed. It was intended to levy a just tax on interests now escaping taxation although among the heaviest beneficiaries of the state, and would probably have brought in enough revenue to have paid all state expenses. Another case where the initiative should be invoked.

The members of the legislature from this district fared well in the committee assignments. Representative Rusk was given a place on the judiciary committee, a most unusual honor for a new member. A place on that committee is counted equal to a chairmanship of a minor committee. In addition he is on the irrigation, military affairs and mining committees—all important ones. Senator Oliver is on four of the best committees in the Senate, agriculture and forestry, counties, municipal corporations, and revision of laws.

Representative Brooke of Harney and Malheur, and Representative Bean of Lane (it took two to do it) have introduced a bill making it a misdemeanor for a candidate for the legislature to subscribe to State, ment No. 1. Under this bill it becomes unlawful for a person to make a pledge to the people of his district. It would still be "lawful" for a legislator to pledge his vote to a corporation or set of political bosses. Oh, yes! That would be perfectly constitutional.

Representative Rusk has introduced a bill to permit the Wallowa county court to sell the jail property.

If timber lands had been assessed at their true valuation in this county, and every individual had given to the assessor all his property, the tax levy would have been under 10 mills. The difference between what it would have been and what it is, 12.5 mills, is what the honest man is paying to make up for the other fellows.

THE NEW LEADERSHIP.

From Salem Capital Journal (Rep.) The type of Republicans who are appearing and around whom the Republican party will grow strong and healthy as a political organization are men like McArthur, Bowerman, Rusk, Sinnott, Eaton, McCue, Patton, Kay, Abbott, Jones of Polk Hawley, the men from Clackamas, McKinney, Brooks, Abrahams and others, who say pledges are made to be kept in the interest of the people and party, not to be violated in the interest of factionalism or personal ambition.

It is in this new leadership that the Republicans have hope. The new leadership will not sneer at the Direct Primary law, which is rapidly being adopted by other states. Under it the farmer, the laborer, the common citizen, who is not a professional politician, has something to say.

Will the masses of the people accept leadership that distrusts them, that places the lowest machine politician from the North End in Portland, or from the gambling halls of Astoria, above the honest decent granger?

Yet that is what has been expected and because the farmer would not let go his power under the Direct Primary, he has been insulted by men who stole into positions, in violation of law, voted for the Democratic nominee for senator, and bet money that Chamberlain would be elected.

Isn't it time for the new clean, decent young blood in the Republican party to assert itself and declare for Republican policies that have some respect for American citizenship?

Subscribe for the Chieftain.

AT NATION'S CAPITAL

Roosevelt Is Not Consulted by Taft About Selections for Cabinet.

NEW STATEHOOD BILL UP

Preparations Are Being Made for An Elaborate Inauguration of Taft and Sherman.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Mr. Taft is not keeping President Roosevelt posted on the formation of his cabinet. He is neither seeking the advice of the President nor submitting names for his approval after selection has been made. The fact is that Mr. Roosevelt is entirely in the dark with regard to the Taft cabinet; he knows no more than he gathers from the newspapers.

There is some truth in the report that the President feels slighted because Mr. Taft has not seen fit to offer Secretary Loeb a place in his cabinet, but the President is more disturbed because Mr. Taft is inclined to choose an entirely new cabinet, retiring all members of the present body with the possible exception of Secretary of War Wright, who was appointed on recommendation of Mr. Taft just prior to his retirement from the Roosevelt cabinet.

The definite statement can be made that James K. Garfield, secretary of the interior, will not be a member of the cabinet of the next administration. Neither will he be an ambassador to a foreign country. He will return to his home in Ohio and take up the practice of law.

An omnibus bill providing separate statehood for the territories of New Mexico and Arizona was introduced in the house by Hamilton, of Michigan, chairman of the house committee on territories. The bill was framed by the Republican members of the committee and submitted to the minority members, who approved it.

New Mexico is given two representatives in the house, to be elected at large, and the city of Santa Fe is designated as the capital of the state until 1920.

Four sections of land in every township are granted to New Mexico for the support of common schools. Two of these had been previously granted to the territory.

When adopted into the Union, New Mexico is to be attached to the eighth judicial district. One hundred thousand dollars is appropriated for the expenses incident to the elections and constitution provided for in the bills.

Most of the provisions for Arizona are similar to those for New Mexico. Phoenix is designated as the capital until 1920. Arizona is given one representative in the house; 120,000 acres of land are granted for university purposes and other grants are equal to those made for New Mexico.

Great preparations are being made for Taft's inauguration. The programme is divided into five important features and others of less interest, among which are:

An imposing military parade is being arranged on a big scale by Major-General J. Franklin Bell, who has been appointed grand marshal. A great display of fireworks on the White Lot, just in front of the White House, in combination with the illumination of the streets of Washington throughout the downtown section, the dome of the Capitol and the Washington monument and a drill and display of pyrotechnics by the Republican Flambeau Club of Minneapolis.

The inaugural ball will be held in the pension building, the largest brick structure in the world.

With the convening of a new congress scarcely more than a month distant, the selection of standing committees of the next house and particularly the award of chairmanships has become the subject of keen speculation.

The understanding among members is that the rule of seniority will be used in the selection of a chairman. There are, however, important committees whose chairmen will not be members of the next house and the selection of their successors is causing no little speculation.

The American National Red Cross Association has cabled to Ambassador Griscom at Rome \$225,000, which he will present to Queen Helena for the purpose of beginning an agricultural colony in Calabria or Sicily for the orphans in the Italian earthquake district.

For the purpose of shipping lumber for houses for the earthquake sufferers, the Red Cross has given \$100,000 to the navy department.

The delivery of a package containing intoxicating liquor to any person but the consignee is prohibited by the provisions of a bill introduced by Representative Miller, of Kansas. A fine of not more than \$5000 or imprisonment for two years is fixed as a penalty for any violation. The bill applies to interstate shipments.

SEEK HIGHER DUTY ON HOPS

Western Growers to Ask for Double Charge.

San Francisco, Feb. 1.—To secure relief for the hop industry of the Pacific Coast from foreign competition, E. C. Horst, of San Francisco, and Herman Klaber, of Portland, Or., will make another plea to the ways and means committee of Congress for an increase in the duty on the foreign product. Foreign hops at present pay 12 cents a pound duty, and an increase to 24 cents is sought.

The plight of the hopgrowers is pictured as desperate. The production in this country has fallen off in the last three years nearly 50 per cent, while the importations have nearly trebled. For the last three years, it is said, the American grower has not received for his hops the cost of their production; and in California, Oregon and Washington hop fields are everywhere being abandoned and thousands of acres of hops plowed up.

CONGRESS HONORS WIDOWS

Wives of Cleveland and Harrison Granted Franking Privilege.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Frances Folsom Cleveland, widow of ex-President Grover Cleveland, and Mary Lord Harrison, widow of ex-



MRS. GROVER CLEVELAND.

President Benjamin Harrison, were granted the franking privilege for life by the provisions of a house bill passed by the senate.

CANADA AND MEXICO TO SEND DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE

Washington, Feb. 1.—Now that the Canadian and Mexican governments have both formally accepted President Roosevelt's invitation to send delegates to a North American Conservation Conference here, the final arrangements are being rapidly put into shape. The conference will be held at the state department February 18.

Canada and Mexico will each send three delegates. The only others present will be the members of the National Conservation Commission and representatives of the state department and of one or two other executive departments.

Adopt Spanish Industry.

Pasadena, Cal., Feb. 2.—Through experiments just completed, California should come into a \$2,000,000 industry that is now enjoyed by Spain as one of her chief winter exports. It is the growing, storage and marketing of choice varieties of grapes, which hitherto has belonged to the Castilians.

For four years, experts of the department of agriculture have been experimenting with the preserving of grapes at the plant of the Pasadena Ice Company. Varieties have been subjected to every conceivable condition of temperature and time. The result shows that by a scientific method of packing and storing, choice species can be grown here in the summer, kept as long as necessary and placed on the market in perfect condition.

THE MARKETS

Portland.

Wheat—Track prices: Club, 96c; red Russian, 93c; bluestem, \$1.06; Valley, \$1.00.
Barley—Feed, \$28; rolled, \$28@29.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$34; gray, \$33.
Hay—Timothy, Willamette Valley, fancy, \$16; do. ordinary, \$13; Eastern Oregon, mixed, \$18; do. fancy, \$20; alfalfa, \$16; clover, 14.
Butter—Extra, 33@35c; fancy, 33@34c; choice, 30c; store, 18c.
Eggs—Extra, 50c.
Hops—1908, choice, 7½c; prime, 6@7c; medium, 5@6c; 1907, 2@2½c.
Wool—Valley, 14@15½c; lb.; Eastern Oregon, 8@16c, as to shrinkage.
Mohair—Choice, 18@19c.

Seattle.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.07.
Oats—\$34.
Barley—\$27.50@28.
Hay—Eastern Washington timothy, \$18 per ton; Puget Sound hay, \$13@14 per ton; wheat hay, \$13 per ton; alfalfa, \$13@14 per ton.
Butter—Washington creamery, 37c per lb.; ranch, 21c per lb.
Eggs—Selected local, 42c.
Potatoes—White River, \$19@24 per ton; Yakima, \$22@26 per ton.

Fire and Water.

A new insurance inspector had just completed his first trip in one of the big office buildings. He was making up his report in the office of the superintendent of the skyscraper.

"Well," said the superintendent, "did you find everything all right?"

"Yes," said the other, with a grin, "all right but in one instance."

"What?"

"It had to do with the buckets in the corridors."

"What was the matter there?" inquired the superintendent. "I had them filled just the other day."

"That's it exactly," replied the official. "The label reads, 'For Fire Only,' and you have put water in them!"—Youth's Companion.

"Life is full of ups and downs," said the man who is airy and affable under all circumstances.

"So I have heard."

"Well, I am at present in the full enjoyment of one of the ups."

"I congratulate you."

"Don't. It's a case of 'hard up.'"

"Well," asked a dramatist after his first performance of his play, "did you like it?"

"Very much," answered his wife. "But there is one incongruity in it. The second act takes place two years after the first, and the young couple have the same cook."

Ruberoid roofing, 1 ply and 2 ply, for sale by S. D. Keitner.

GAME LAWS.

Any person knowing of any violation of the game or fish laws of the state, or of persons not properly keeping screens over irrigation ditches, are requested to notify

JOE CLEMONS, deputy State Game and Forest Warden, Zumwalt, Oregon. 437f

Information Concerning Eighth Grade Final Examinations.

I. Dates:
Three examinations annually. Each county superintendent to select months for his county.

(a) January 21-22, 1909.
(b) May 13-14, 1909.
(c) June 10-11, 1909.
(d) September 2-3, 1909.

2. Program:
(a) Thursdays—Arithmetic, Writing, History, and Civil Government.

(b) Fridays—Grammar, Physiology, Geography, and Spelling.

3. Sources of Questions:
(a) Civil Government—United States Constitution.

(b) Geography—State Course of Study; Redway and Hinman's Natural School Geography.

(c) History—List of topics from History Outline in State Course of Study and Current Events.

(d) Language—Buehler's Modern English Grammar, no diagramming.

(e) Reading—The teacher will send to the County Superintendent the applicant's class standing in reading, which shall be taken by such superintendent as the applicant's standing on the subject.

(f) Spelling—Eighty per cent from Read's Word Lessons, and twenty per cent from manuscript in Language.

Respectfully submitted,
J. H. ACKERMAN,
Supt. Public Instruction.

The first Eighth Grade examination for the year 1909 will be held January 21-22.

Teachers preparing classes for this examination will please report to this office the number of applicants at

least thirty days before above date. Respectfully,
J. C. CONLEY,
Supt. of Schools.

Department of Public Instruction Salem

CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION

Giving the sources of examination questions for State and County papers, February and August, 1909.

1. Arithmetic, One-fifth from State Course of Study, four-fifths from Smith.

2. Civil Government, Strong & Schafer.

3. English Literature: February, 1909—
A. One-half from texts: Newcomer's English Literature, and Newcomer's American Literature.

B. One-half from the following classics:
1. Lowell, The Vision of Sir Launfal (Riv. lit. ser.) Houghton, 25c, 22c.

2. Webster, The First Banker Hill Oration (Riv. lit. ser.) Houghton, 25c, 22c.

3. Scott, Marmion (Pocket Classics) Macmillan, 25c, 22c. August, 1909—

A. One-half from texts: Newcomer's English Literature, and Newcomer's American Literature.

B. One-half from the following classics:

1. Shakespeare, Julius Caesar (Riv. lit. ser.) Houghton, 25c, 22c.

2. Ruskin, Sesame and Lilies (Riv. lit. ser.) Houghton, 25c, 22c.

3. Carlyle, Essay on Burns and Burns' Poems (Pocket Classics) Macmillan, 25c, 22c.

The first figure is the publisher's price, the second the price to schools contracted for between the Oregon Library Commission and The J. K. Gill Co.

4. Geography, One-fifth from State Courses of Study, four-fifths from Redway & Hinman.

5. Grammar, One-fifth from State Course of Study, four-fifths from Buehler.

6. History, U. S. One-fifth from State Course of Study, four-fifths from Buehler.

7. Orthography, Reed's Word Lessons.

8. Physical Geography, Tarr's New Physical Geography.

9. Physiology, Krohn, Hutchinson.

10. Reading, State Course of Study, White's Art of Teaching, Oral Reading.

11. School Law, School Laws of Oregon.

12. Theory and Practice, White's Art of Teaching.

13. Writing, Outlook Writing System, Tests in Writing.

14. Algebra, Wells: Algebra for Secondary Schools.

15. Bookkeeping, Office Methods and Practical Bookkeeping, Part I.

16. Composition, Herrick & Damon.

17. Physics, Millikan & Gale: A First Course in Physics.

18. Psychology, Buell.

19. Botany, Bergen: Elements of Botany.

20. Geometry, Wentworth: Plane and Solid Geometry, questions on Plane Geometry.

21. History, General, Myers: General History.

An examination is required upon the first thirteen subjects for a first grade County certificate valid for three years; upon the first eighteen subjects for a State certificate valid for five years; and upon the twenty-one subjects for a State diploma valid for life.

TOWN PROPERTY

FARM LANDS
TIMBER LANDS
STOCK RANCHES

FIRE INSURANCE
PLATE GLASS INS.
STOCK INSURANCE

Property listed with me is unsolicited. The owners desire to sell. Consequently they are

BARGAINS

Now is the time to buy property in Enterprise. See me if you want a house or lot—any location

Good farm propositions in valley and out lying districts.

Insure your live stock in the National Live Stock Insurance Company. You can not afford to take chances at the price it costs to insure your horses or cows.

I have the best Standard Fire Insurance Companies. Also the cheapest Mutual Company.

W. E. TAGGART,

Enterprise, Oregon.