

# Proposed Oregon Tax Law

(Continued from last week)

12. A statement of the number of miles of main, branch, double, and side tracks owned or leased by said company in each county in this state, stated separately.

13. A statement of the entire gross receipts and net earnings of the company from operation and otherwise, stated separately, for the fiscal year ending in the calendar year closing March 1, preceding the report being made.

14. Such other facts or information of a like or different kind as said board may require in the form of return prescribed by it.

The board is hereby given the power to prescribe such directions, rules and regulations to be followed in answering any of the requirements of this section, or as herein authorized, as in its judgment shall be best calculated to insure accuracy and uniformity in reporting the facts.

(Blanks furnished by board—Penalty for refusal or neglect to report.)

Section 9. Blanks for making the statements provided for in section eight (8) of this act shall be provided by the said board. Provided, that the reports herein provided for shall not relieve the company from making any other report required by law to be made to any other officer. In case any company fails or refuses to make any statement or furnish any information required by this act, the board shall inform itself as best it may as to the matters necessary to be known in order to discharge its duties with respect to the property of such company. Any company which shall refuse or neglect to make the report required by this act within the time specified shall be subject to a penalty of \$500 for each day of the continuance of such neglect or refusal to file such report, to be recovered in a proper action brought in the name of the state of Oregon in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(Board to determine value and prepare assessment roll—Mileage basis of apportionment.)

Section 10. Subsequent to the filing of the reports required in the preceding sections, and prior to the first Monday in October in each year, it shall be the duty of the said state board of tax commissioners to prepare an assessment roll, as provided in section five (5) of this act, upon which they shall assess the true cash value as of the first day of March at the hour of 1 o'clock a. m., of the year in which the assessment is made, of all the property of the companies herein enumerated subject to taxation under this act, which said assessment shall not be final until reviewed as herein provided. For the purpose of arriving at the amount and character and true cash value of the property belonging to said companies as appearing upon the assessment roll for the purpose of assessment for taxation under this act, the said board may personally inspect the property belonging to said companies and may take into consideration the reports filed under this act, the reports and returns of said companies filed in the office of any prior officer of this state, or any county thereof, the earning power of said companies, the franchises and special franchises owned or used by said companies (said franchises and special franchises not to be directly assessed, but to be taken into consideration in determining the value of the other property), the assessed valuation of any property of said companies, used in the operation of the business of the companies, and by law required to be assessed by county assessors, and such other evidence of a like or different kind as may be obtainable bearing thereon; provided, that in no event shall any report or valuation by a county assessor, or otherwise as in this act provided, be conclusive upon such board in arriving at the amount and character and true cash value of the property belonging to said companies, and by this act to be assessed for purposes of taxation by said board. In determining the true cash value of the property assessable for taxation by the said state board of tax commissioners of the companies in this act enumerated, when said companies own, lease, operate or use rail, pipe or wire lines, or property partly within and partly without this state, if the board shall value the entire property within and without the state as a unit, as provided in the next section, the said board shall be controlled in ascertaining the property subject to taxation in Oregon by the proportion which the number of miles of main track (meaning thereby main, stem, and branch lines), miles of wire, or miles of main pipe lines controlled or used by said company, as owner, lessee, or otherwise, within the state of Oregon bears to the entire mileage of main tracks as aforesaid miles of wire or main pipe line controlled or used by said company as owner, lessee, or otherwise.

(Determination of value as a unit—Deduction of property locally assessed.)

Section 11. The said board, for the purpose of arriving at the actual cash value of the property assessable by it, as herein provided, may value the entire property, both within and without the state of Oregon, as a unit. In case it shall value the entire property as a unit, either within or without the state of Oregon, or both, said board shall make deductions of the property of said company situate outside the state, and not connected directly with the business thereof, as may be just, to the end that the fair proportion of the property of said company in this state may be ascertained. If the said board value the entire property within the state of Oregon as a unit, it shall make deductions of the property of said company situate in Oregon, and assessed by the county assessors, to an amount that shall be just; and for that purpose the county assessors shall be and they are hereby required, if the said board request the same, to certify to the said board the assessable value of the property of said companies assessable by them, but such certification of assessed or assessable value is intended to be advisory only, and not conclusive upon the said board.

(Sufficiency of description on roll—Mileage to be stated.)

Section 12. Upon such assessment roll shall be placed, after the name of each of the companies assessed under the provisions of this act, a general description of the properties of the said companies, which shall be deemed to include all of the properties of the said companies liable to assessment for taxation under this act, owned, leased, or occupied by them, whether as owner, lessee, occupant, or otherwise. The said description may be in the language of this act as contained in section six (6) hereof, or otherwise. But no assessment shall be invalidated by a mistake in the name of the corporation assessed, or by an omission of the name of the owner, or the entry of a name other than that of the true owner, if the property be generally correctly described; and provided further, that where the name of the true owner, or the name of the owner of record, lessee, or occupant of any property assessable under the provisions of this act shall be given, such assessment shall not be held invalid on account of any error or irregularity in the description, provided such description would be sufficient in a deed of conveyance from the owner, or on account of which in a contract to convey a court of equity would decree a conveyance to be made, reading the said description in connection with the definition of property assessable under the provisions hereof as in this act contained. Upon such assessment roll shall be placed, opposite the name of the company, in a proper column, the aggregate main track mileage as defined in section 10 hereof, miles of wire, or main pipe line, as the case may be, within the state of Oregon.

(Ascertainment of value of main and branch lines and value per mile.)

Section 13. Said state board of tax commissioners shall thereupon ascertain the value of the several branch lines of the said companies situated in this state, and the mileage thereof, and shall ascertain the value per mile of the said branch lines respectively by dividing the value of each of them by the mileage thereof. The said board shall thereupon deduct the total amount so ascertained as the value of branch lines from the total value of the property of the said companies assessable under the provisions of this act so ascertained as aforesaid; and shall thereupon ascertain the value per mile of main line of rail, pipe, or wire by dividing the remainder, after deducting the value of said branch lines from the total value in this state, by the number of miles of such main rail, pipe, or wire line in this state, and the quotient obtained as aforesaid shall be deemed and held to be the value per mile of said branch and main lines respectively.

(Apportionment of assessment to counties according to mileage.)

Section 14. For the purpose of determining what amount of the assessment made under the provisions of this act shall be apportioned to the several counties in this state in, through, across, into, or over which the lines of said companies extend, the said state board of tax commissioners shall multiply the value per mile as above ascertained of the several main and branch lines by the number of miles of such main and branch lines in each of the counties aforesaid, as reported in the statements made by the said companies, or as otherwise ascertained and determined by the said board.

(Notice of sitting of board to review assessment and apportionment—Proof.)

Section 15. The said board shall give three weeks' public notice in some newspaper printed at the state capital, setting forth that on the first Monday in October it will attend at the capital and publicly examine the assessment roll by it made, and review the same, and correct all errors in valuation, description, quantities, or qualities of property by it assessable and in apportionment of assessments made by it; and it shall be the duty of the persons and corporations interested to appear at the time and place appointed. Proof

as herein provided, may value the entire property, both within and without the state of Oregon, as a unit. In case it shall value the entire property as a unit, either within or without the state of Oregon, or both, said board shall make deductions of the property of said company situate outside the state, and not connected directly with the business thereof, as may be just, to the end that the fair proportion of the property of said company in this state may be ascertained. If the said board value the entire property within the state of Oregon as a unit, it shall make deductions of the property of said company situate in Oregon, and assessed by the county assessors, to an amount that shall be just; and for that purpose the county assessors shall be and they are hereby required, if the said board request the same, to certify to the said board the assessable value of the property of said companies assessable by them, but such certification of assessed or assessable value is intended to be advisory only, and not conclusive upon the said board.

(Sufficiency of description on roll—Mileage to be stated.)

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(Ascertainment of value of main and branch lines and value per mile.)

Section 13. Said state board of tax commissioners shall thereupon ascertain the value of the several branch lines of the said companies situated in this state, and the mileage thereof, and shall ascertain the value per mile of the said branch lines respectively by dividing the value of each of them by the mileage thereof. The said board shall thereupon deduct the total amount so ascertained as the value of branch lines from the total value of the property of the said companies assessable under the provisions of this act so ascertained as aforesaid; and shall thereupon ascertain the value per mile of main line of rail, pipe, or wire by dividing the remainder, after deducting the value of said branch lines from the total value in this state, by the number of miles of such main rail, pipe, or wire line in this state, and the quotient obtained as aforesaid shall be deemed and held to be the value per mile of said branch and main lines respectively.

(Apportionment of assessment to counties according to mileage.)

Section 14. For the purpose of determining what amount of the assessment made under the provisions of this act shall be apportioned to the several counties in this state in, through, across, into, or over which the lines of said companies extend, the said state board of tax commissioners shall multiply the value per mile as above ascertained of the several main and branch lines by the number of miles of such main and branch lines in each of the counties aforesaid, as reported in the statements made by the said companies, or as otherwise ascertained and determined by the said board.

(Notice of sitting of board to review assessment and apportionment—Proof.)

Section 15. The said board shall give three weeks' public notice in some newspaper printed at the state capital, setting forth that on the first Monday in October it will attend at the capital and publicly examine the assessment roll by it made, and review the same, and correct all errors in valuation, description, quantities, or qualities of property by it assessable and in apportionment of assessments made by it; and it shall be the duty of the persons and corporations interested to appear at the time and place appointed. Proof

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Section 16. The said board shall meet at the capital of the state on the first Monday of October in each year, as stated in the notice prescribed in the preceding section hereof, and shall then have before it the assessment roll made by it as prescribed in this act.

(Review and correction of assessment roll and apportionment—Omitted property assessed.)

Section 17. It shall then be the duty of such board to review, examine, and correct the assessment roll by it made, and to increase or reduce the valuation of the property therein assessed, so that the same shall be the full cash value thereof, and to assess omitted taxable property by it assessable in the manner hereinafter provided, and to correct errors in apportionments of assessments therein. If it shall appear to such board that there is any real or personal property which by law it is permitted to assess which has been by it assessed twice, or incorrectly assessed as to description, quantity, or quality, or assessed in the name of a person or corporation not the owner, lessee, or occupant thereof, or assessed under or beyond the actual full cash value thereof, or which is not assessable by said board, but which has been assessed by it, said board may make proper corrections of the same. If it shall appear to said board that any real or personal property which is assessable by it has not been assessed upon said assessment roll, said board shall assess the same at the full cash value thereof.

(Notice of increase or change in apportionment—Petitions to be written and verified—Time of filing.)

Section 18. Said board shall not change the apportionment of any assessment or increase the valuation of any property on such assessment roll as provided in the preceding section without giving to the company or person in whose name it is assessed at least six days' written notice to appear and show cause, if any there be, why the apportionment of such assessment shall not be changed, or the valuation of the assessable property of such company or person, or some part thereof, to be specified in such notice, shall not be increased; provided, that such notice shall not be necessary if the person or company appear voluntarily before said board, and be there notified by a member thereof that the property of such person or corporation, or some specified part thereof, is, in the opinion of the board, assessed below its actual value, or that such apportionment is, in the opinion of the board, incorrect. Petitions or applications for the reduction or change of apportionment of a particular assessment shall be made in writing, verified by the oath of the applicant, its president, secretary, managing agent, or attorney in fact, and be filed with the board during the first week it is by law required to be in session, and any petition or application not so made, verified, and filed shall not be considered or acted upon by the board.

(Board to complete review in one month, sitting continuously.)

Section 19. The said board, sitting for the purpose of reviewing the said roll as above provided, shall continue its sessions from day to day, exclusive of Sundays and legal holidays, until the examination, review, correction, and equalization of the said rolls shall be completed; but it shall complete said examination, review, correction, and equalization within one month from the time it is by law required to meet, and, unless sooner completed, at the expiration of one month from the time the board is herein required to meet the examination, review, correction, and equalization of the said assessment roll shall be deemed to be complete.

(Record of action of board.)

Section 20. Corrections, additions, or changes in the said roll shall be entered in a column therein headed substantially "as reviewed," and the entries in such column shall be the record of the action of such board. The meetings, sittings, and adjournment of the said board, sitting for the purposes of review, shall be recorded in its journal.

(Roll kept on file as public record.)

Section 21. Said roll, when so examined, reviewed, corrected, and equalized by such board, shall be kept on file in the office of the said state board of tax commissioners as a public record.

(To be continued next week)

**Real Athletism.**

An English athletic authority says that 35 is the maximum age for a good athlete. Perhaps most people have noticed that professional athletes wear themselves out young. Prize fighters, sprinters and circus performers quit in early prime.

But are these the real athletes? How much more true an athlete is the well-preserved farmer, who, at 65, can pitch as much hay as his son or grandson!

The best athletism is that which holds through the ripe years and enables a man to sit his horse as erectly at 80 as at 20.—Cleveland Press.

**Always a Way.**

"There is always some way to overcome every difficulty," said the cheery citizen.

"Yes," answered the sardonic person. "If you doubt it you can ask any candidate just before election."—Washington Star.

**The Limit.**

"You say he is well educated?" "Yes, he can talk every known language except golf and baseball."—Houston Post.

# WILL BOOST JETTY

## Congress Likely to Make Work Continuing Contract.

### BURTON WOULD RUSH PROJECT

#### No Appropriations Made Unless Recommended by Engineers—Cello Canal Will Get Cash.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The river and harbor bill will be reported to the house of representatives about January 14 and will pass that body the same week. The committee on rivers and harbors has distributed the proposed items to sub-committees and on December 31 the whole committee will get together and begin the actual framing of the bill. It will probably take two weeks to perfect the measure.

In formulating the bill the house committee will strictly observe its rule to make no appropriation for any project that has not been recommended by the chief of engineers and approved by the engineer board of review. These officials in turn will recommend to appropriation unless the project has been surveyed and endorsed by the local engineers. There will be absolutely no divergence from this practice and all states will fare alike. In like manner the committee will recommend no appropriations in excess of the amount estimated by the engineers, but in most instances will materially cut these estimates.

This being the case, the committee will under no circumstances recommend more than \$1,500,000 for the month of the Columbia river nor more than \$750,000 for the Cello canal.

Indeed, in view of the very heavy demand for appropriations coming from all parts of the country, it will be very remarkable if the committee authorizes appropriations as large as recommended by the engineers. There is a probability that the improvement of the mouth of the Columbia river may be made a continuing contract and, if that is done, it is as good as a cash appropriation, in that it insures continuous construction until the south jetty is completed. There is little or no likelihood that the Cello canal will be made a continuing contract in the forthcoming bill.

Over 1,200 separate appropriations have been asked for by the delegations from the various states; the bill as reported will probably contain 400. Naturally with this, heavy cut, part of it must be expected in Oregon and Washington.

### EIGHT PASSENGERS KILLED.

#### Passenger Train in North Dakota Hits Switch Engine.

St. Paul, Dec. 24.—A special to the Pioneer Press from Enderlin, N. D., says:

Loaded to its full capacity with people going to their homes in the East to spend the Christmas holidays, the south bound train on the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie crashed into a switch engine at the west end of the railroad yards at this place at 2:10 o'clock Sunday morning.

Eight men were killed outright and one has since died of his injuries. Twenty seven were seriously injured and it is likely that the death list will be added to.

All of the fatalities occurred in the smoking car, which was completely telescoped by the baggage car, and only two of the occupants of this car escaped injury.

The wreckage took fire from the overturned stoves used in heating the cars and there was a race between the rescuers and the flames. By almost superhuman efforts the rescuing party managed to fight off the flames until all of the dead and injured had been removed from the wrecked cars, which then were allowed to burn.

### Castro is Seriously Ill.

Trinidad, Colo., Dec. 24.—Advice received here from Venezuela are to the effect that the health of President Castro, who is at Macuto, is becoming more and more alarming. An operation is deemed necessary, but the weakened state of the sick man does not permit of an attempt in this respect being made. The sailing of General Jose Manuel Hernandez is not confirmed, but rumors of a serious revolutionary movement in the western part of Venezuela continue to be circulated. The press is mute on the subject.

### London Suffers from Influenza.

New York, Dec. 24.—A dispatch to the World from London reports that influenza of a particularly virulent type is raging there and as usual its victims include many prominent people. The lord chancellor and the archbishop of Canterbury are barely convalescent, while Arthur Balfour and Speaker Lowther are both seriously ill. The doctors recommend sun baths as the best cure, but London has enjoyed only 75 minutes' sunshine in 33 days.

### Appeal to "Ku Klux Klan."

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 24.—Following the posting of small notices, printed in red ink, in the streets early today, calling the "K. K. K." to meet this evening with arms, Mayor Woodward today offered a reward of \$200 for evidence to convict any person of posting such notices, or in any way inciting riot. No serious importance is attached to the notices.

### RAM'S HORN BLASTS.

#### Warning Notes Calling the Wicked to Repentance.



THE man who is in a blue funk always wants you to think he is in a brown study. The only life that is worth living is the one that has something worth giving.

Satan is always ready to O. K. the sermon that is prepared with the great man in mind. Christ is exoteric, but Satan esoteric. Grace is rare, with beginning of God. Gold is more easily made than master.

The trouble with having many strings out is that they may all want to take in their slack at once.

The man who pretends to religious pumpkins when he has only radishes soon has a barren garden.

He who knows no better than to fall into every bramble bush, always talks of the way he is persecuted.

Some folks think the way to give a square deal is to try to stand on all four sides of every question.

When some folks have eaten a rich sermon dinner they think they have done the world a divine service.

The man who talks about the conflict of religion with his reason is usually dealing in unknown quantities.

Folks always flock to the churches flowing with the milk of human kindness and the honey of heavenliness.

### TREASURES OF BURIED CITY.

#### Much Expected from the Proposed Excavation of Herculaneum.

Every archaeologist and student of the arts and literature of the ancient world will hope for the realization of the expectation that a way has been found to overcome Italian objections to the excavation of Herculaneum. These objections, based on a proud reluctance to have the development of Italian antiquities made a matter of foreign intervention, have heretofore seemed to be as formidable as those presented by the lack of funds and by the compact concrete in which the ancient Roman city is imbedded. If the first-named obstacle has been softened by tact and diplomacy the modern world of learning and of science can be depended upon to furnish the solvent for the others.

The world's especial interest in the buried treasures of Herculaneum has its explanation in the circumstances of the disaster which overwhelmed the city and in the character of the people who lived in it. The little excavation that has been done, rendered extremely difficult by the existence of a modern city above the buried one and from the nature of the material itself, has proved that Herculaneum was by no means another Pompeii. The latter city was commercial chiefly. It has yielded to the explorers valuable treasures, but it must be remembered that its fate and that of its sister city differed far deeper and in a material that effectively prevented the immediate uncovering and ransacking of the ruins, which in the case of Pompeii accounts for the removal of all household utensils and the majority of the works of art and of contemporary literature. Moreover, Herculaneum was the fashionable summer resort of wealthy Romans, not merely a provincial commercial town.

There is field for fascinating speculation as to what treasures the still buried city may contain. In the single house that has been opened no fewer than 1,700 manuscripts were recovered. These were the collection of a specialist in Epicurean philosophy and in so far not especially valuable to the modern student, but the probability that the villa libraries still fast in the cemented mud of Vesuvius may contain many of the lost works of ancient writers makes the quest unique. The finding of the lost lyrics of Sappho, Alcaeus and Simonides or the tragedies of Phrynichus, of whom Aristophanes speaks, or the comedies of the rivals of Aristophanes himself, Cratinus and Amelipsus, or of lost histories of Greece and Rome, is a possibility and lends a zest to the labors of Prof. Waldstein and those who have worked with him to bring about the opening of the buried city.—Philadelphia Ledger.

### Variable Indian Voter.

"No party can safely count on the vote of the Indian. The smallest thing can change his view," said John N. Florer, of Bartlesville, I. T., one of the oldest Indian traders in the Territory.

"Some years ago the Osage Indians were called into council. The Democrats prepared a feast for them. They barbecued beef and fed the Indians well. And the Indians were 'for' the Democrats. Then the Republicans invited them to a barbecue and they were 'for' the Republicans. After it was all over the Indians met. One of them addressed the meeting.

"Democrat, good, feed Indian," he said. "Republican, good, feed Indian full."

"Then he concluded: 'Both good, Indian go home.'"—Kansas City Star.

### There's the Difference.

Knox—The idea of the swell set snubbing Jigley simply because he's a self-made man.

Ascum—Think so?

Knox—Of course. Why, they have admitted Hawkins, who is also a self-made man.

Ascum—Ah, but Hawkins was made in England.—Philadelphia Press.

# THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



- 1806—Adelphi theater, London, opened.
- 1825—Nicholas I. succeeded to the throne of Russia.
- 1836—London university instituted.
- 1838—Mexico declared war against France.
- 1841—Colossal statue of Washington placed in the national capital.
- 1844—Queen Alexandra of England born.
- 1855—Great meeting in London in aid of Florence Nightingale hospital fund.
- 1858—Joint French and Spanish expedition to Cochinchina announced.
- 1861—Jefferson Davis elected President of the Confederate States of America. . . . Gen. McClellan directed the observance of the Sabbath in all the camps of the U. S. army.
- 1862—Battle of Crane Hill, Ark.
- 1862—Confederates made heroic attempt to carry Knoxville by storm.
- 1864—Gen. Hood attacked the Union troops under Gen. Schofield at Franklin, Tenn.
- 1865—Habes corpus act restored in the Northern States.
- 1870—First London school board established.
- 1871—Jem Mace and Joe Coburn engaged in prize fight near New Orleans without decisive result.
- 1889—Minneapolis Tribune building burned, with loss of several lives. . . . Fire in Boston destroyed \$4,000,000 in property.
- 1891—Edmund De Leon, ex-United States consul general in Egypt, died. . . . Lunatic attempted to assassinate Rev. Dr. John Hall in New York.
- 1892—Loubet ministry in France resigned on the Panama scandal issue.
- 1897—Austrian ministry resigned owing to disorders in the Reichsrath.
- 1898—Steamer Portland, from Boston to Portland, Me., foundered in a gale off Capt Cod, with a loss of 118 lives. . . . Battleship Wisconsin launched at San Francisco.
- 1899—Harpers' publishing house, New York, failed.
- 1900—German government intimated to Mr. Kruger that visit to Berlin would be inopportune.
- 1901—Many persons killed in wreck on Wabash railroad.
- 1902—United States Supreme Court denied a petition for an injunction against the State board of canvassers of Virginia on behalf of negroes disfranchised by the new State constitution.
- 1904—Japanese made general attack on Russian forts at Port Arthur. . . . The Japanese captured 203-Metre Hill at Port Arthur.

# SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Gov. Proctor of Vermont has signed the bill providing for the consolidation of the school systems of neighboring towns under one superintendent.

Registration statistics of leading eastern universities are as follows: Harvard, 5,272; Columbia, 4,965; Pennsylvania, 3,960; Cornell, 3,401; Yale, 3,210; Princeton, 1,384.

The annual report of the London county council shows that the city schools have been maintained at an outlay of \$25,000,000, and that there are 20,000 teachers for an average school attendance of 669,167. The salaries for head teachers range from \$700 to \$2,000, and for assistants from \$325 to \$875. Each teacher has charge of forty-three children on an average.

By a decision of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington local authority upholds the efforts of school officials to check the abuse of secret fraternities and societies in public high schools. A local board had forbidden pupils to join a secret fraternity, and as a penalty for disobedience denied to offenders certain privileges in the social life of the school, but did not limit in any way the essential educational rights. Action was brought in behalf of the fraternity to restrain the school board from depriving the pupils of these privileges. The trial court denied the application for an injunction, and the Supreme Court sustained the denial. The court says that the evidence "overwhelmingly establishes the fact that such fraternities do have a marked influence on the school, tending to destroy good order, discipline and scholarship. This being true, the board is authorized, and it is its duty, to take such reasonable and appropriate action by the adoption of rules as will result in preventing these influences."

The St. Paul board of education has approved the suggestion of Supt. Heister in favor of corporal punishment, to be administered only by the principal of the school after permission in writing has been obtained from parents or guardian.

The first ten years since Princeton college became Princeton university have just ended and the report shows that the endowment has increased from \$1,077,871 to \$3,284,000. The campus area has increased from 225 to 528 acres, and the student body has grown from 1,045 to 1,384, while the faculty has increased from 82 to 103.