

ESTACADA PROGRESS

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ESTACADA, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1914

\$1 A YEAR

LARGEST TAX PAYER

P. R. L. & P. Co. Valued at \$4,541,546.28

With the rise in the values of land in Clackamas county in the past year or so, the assessed valuations do not show it, as the 1915 taxes will be paid on a valuation of \$146,172.31 less than in 1914, being a total valuation of about \$30 375-557-50.

This loss is due to the law passed by the legislature recently, placing the assessment of bridges in the hands of the state tax commission, instead of the county assessor.

The Portland Railway Light & Power Co. is the largest individual tax payer in the county, amounting to about one-sixth of the total taxes.

The local road and school districts do not deserve all of the credit for paying the special taxes as voted, especially in cases where the P. R. L. & P. Co. have large holdings. Out of about three quarters of a million assessed valuation in the Currinsville district, about three-fourths of this amount represents the River Mill power plant. In Estacada proper, a large proportion of the tax is paid by the same company.

Let it be remembered that the P. R. L. & P. Co. have to date, always willingly paid such special taxes as the various districts have decided upon, which should act as another bond between them and the people along their lines.

The Oregon & California Railroad Company have about \$885,000, assessed valuation in this county, although the taxes on this property are delinquent, owing to litigation. A few other corporations are large tax payers but have no holdings in this part of the county.

Cannery Meeting

Last Saturday morning at the Estacada Hotel, a meeting was held between the representatives of the Gresham Cannery, F. D. Hunt, traffic manager of the railway company and a few interested local fruit growers.

Much was accomplished at this meeting, as it resolved itself into a discussion of concrete facts and figures and the local growers report that the proposition "looks good" to them, and part of them have expressed a willingness to cooperate with the Gresham people.

The meeting of the Gresham Cannery Co.'s stockholders will be held early next month and it is likely that many of the Estacada growers will attend.

The railway company has promised to help in every way possible and it is probable that an attractive freight rate will be established between Estacada and Gresham.

WATER LEAGUE FORMED

Oregon City Working for Pure Water

The enterprising people of Oregon City have banded together and formed The Mountain Water League, whose object is to push forward and bring about the early construction of the pipe line from the South Fork of the Clackamas river to their city.

A special election will be held in January to decide whether the city will issue the necessary \$375,000. in bonds to finance the project.

The committee, after much discussion, decided on the using of riveted steel pipe, although the wood stave pipe was cheaper, but its lasting qualities were not as good.

West Linn, across the river from Oregon City, will pay for one-third of the water system and will benefit accordingly.

The sentiment seems to be growing each day in favor of the early building of this line and Estacada people are vitally interested, as it is likely that arrangements will be made to furnish this city with good water from the same pipe line, and its construction will probably give employment to local men.

4 Inches Thick and 80 Feet Deep

With the present sample of real winter weather, the many ponds and streams are frozen over solid and ice skates are being resurrected from the attics and storerooms.

As a large proportion of the local population have lived for a generation, or so in this mild climate, many of the boys are having their first sample of ice skating and its attendant bumps and cold feet. The boys, more recently from the east have skated before and are making the most of this opportunity.

The Estacada lake is frozen over completely and skaters can go from the Park to River Mill. It is a little dangerous to skate on the Clackamas, owing to the receding and rising of the water, as controlled by the River Mill plant, but the element of danger makes the sport more alluring.

The ice is about 4 inches thick, which is not considered safe where a crowd of skaters are assembled, but it is to be hoped no one will fall through, for the eighty or more feet of water below, is mighty chilly these days.

Chas. Sparks is already wearing the skaters' badge, consisting of a bruised nose, caused by a fall on the ice. Aside from the regulation falls, slips, bumps and tumbles, no accidents have occurred.

This cold snap has proven an expensive nuisance for the average householders, and only the plumber has profited from the frozen and bursted pipes. If this keeps up much longer, the average woodshed will look like a deserted ball room.

HENRY KOLPIN PASSES

Veteran Shoemaker Nearly Seventy

After several months of poor health, incident to heart weakness and old age, Henry Kolpin of Estacada passed away last Sunday night, December 20th, and the end came peacefully during sleep.

Pastors Rees and Givens of Estacada conducted funeral services at the family home Tuesday afternoon. The interment will take place at his former home in Berlin, Wisconsin and his daughter, Mrs. W. B. Simmons, accompanied the remains east.

Mr. Kolpin was very well known in Estacada and loved by all, for his cheery smile and his kindly, honest manner won him many friends.

Mr. Kolpin was in his 70th year, having come to Estacada about five years ago from Berlin, Wisconsin. He was born in Germany and in 1860 came to this country. His wife died about eight years ago and since that time, he has lived with his children.

For many years prior to his coming to Oregon, Mr. Kolpin had been in the shoe manufacturing business and originally came west with the intention of starting a shoe factory in San Francisco.

He is survived by two daughters and seven sons; being Mrs. W. B. Simmons and Mrs. Wm. Kubrasche of Estacada, Or., Herman and William Kolpin of Berlin, Wis., Edw. and Alfred Kolpin of Kenosha, Wis., Emil Kolpin of Oakley, Idaho, Louis Kolpin of Hillsboro, Or., and Frank Kolpin of Portland, Or.

The Progress and the many friends of the family express their sincerest sympathy to his children in their bereavement.

Second Carload Gone

The second carload of livestock was shipped from Estacada last Monday, containing 10 head of cattle, 28 hogs, and 2 sheep.

Buyer Lucke expects to make a similar shipment next week, as many farmers are phoning in and requesting him to call on them at their places.

No complaint has been received yet from the sellers to indicate that selling on the hoof is not a paying practice, and many reports heartily favor that method.

Many farmers have good sized bunches of hogs for shipment within the next sixty days and others are increasing their facilities for raising more swine.

GRESHAM FIRE

\$45,000 Loss in Business Section

Early last Sunday morning, a fire of unknown origin, started in the store of the Bartelt Mercantile Co. in Gresham, and before it could be gotten under control, burned and completely destroyed nine of the business buildings and their contents.

The fire rapidly spread from the East to the West side of Main St. A hurry call for help from Portland, brought a quick response in the form of combination chemical hose truck from the East Side. With this assistance, the Gresham Fire Department got the flames under control after about a two hour fight.

Many of the fire fighters and spectators were shocked by live wires, which fell during the conflagration, but no one was seriously injured.

The following places were burned:- Bartelt Mercantile Co., J. C. Hessel & Son, implements; Ed Osborne, blacksmith; Max Schneider, photographer; Palmquist, harness store; D. A. Hart, residence; J. J. Halligan, barber shop; Tietz Meat Market, and damage to the Congdon Hotel, Bank of Gresham, and a few others.

Wood Hauling

Every available team and wood rack in this part of the country is now being pressed into service to handle the thousands of cords of wood, which are piled at the head of the Springwater Hill.

During the two days that the hill has been opened, many cords have been brought down to Estacada and shipped. The work has to be rushed while the roads are frozen and the cold snap lasts and even with the present good conditions, it will take several weeks to get it all on board the cars.

Commissioner Mattoon Honored

The Oregon State Association of County Judges and Commissioners, which recently held their 1914 session in Portland, reelected Clackamas County Commissioner, W. H. Mattoon of Estacada, as treasurer.

Dances

Don't forget the big dance Christmas Eve at Eagle Creek and the Annual C. I. C. dance, Christmas night, at the Estacada Pavillion. New Years Eve will be the Firemen's dance and everyone is invited to be present at all three affairs.