

Estacada Progress
(INCORPORATED)

Published every Thursday at
Estacada, Oregon
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Entered at the postoffice in Estacada,
Oregon, as second-class mail.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES	
One year	\$1.00
Six months	.50

Thursday, Oct. 21, 1915

As the old saying goes—"Death and Taxes are ever present" but probably more worry is spent on the latter item than the former. The question of taxes and the payment of same is an all year around obstacle to the majority of property holders and one in which they are vitally interested.

Our county government is based on taxes, a large part of the work of the county authorities comprises the levying and collection of these same taxes, yet Clackamas County will not send a property owner a statement of his or her taxes, unless directly appealed to.

More than one delinquent tax payer, has got behind because they were never advised of the taxes against their property. For instance, an Estacada property holder on writing to the county sheriff's office recently to obtain a statement of the supposed current taxes, was informed that the 1910 and 1911 taxes had never been paid, although all subsequent ones had been. Alone with the penalty attached, the property owner now has to pay over 50% extra.

Why should not Clackamas county adopt the system used in Douglass and hundreds of other counties in the country, namely, mail to every property holder an itemized statement of their tax? Some counties mail a regular statement, others sending a duplicate card form, the original of which is enclosed with the remittance.

Clackamas county could not make a better or more business-like move than to adopt some such system.

The Oregon City Enterprise has pretty nearly summed up the subject of the new road laws, the new "budget meetings" etc, as follows:-

"The law as framed appears to be the result of a deliberate attempt on the part of some of the legislators to complicate the law and to twist it into such a shape that road districts would find the bother occasioned by raising a special road tax would be greater than to go ahead and improve their roads by volunteer work.

As is usual in most cases the

road district is either practically unanimous for or against a road tax for special purposes and where the resident taxpayers all agree that a road tax should be voted they desire the simplest means of gaining these ends. In the past they simply posted three notices of a road meeting and then each man talked it over with his neighbor before the meeting and at the meeting a notice was drafted to be sent into the county court to have the tax collector add that specified amount to the taxes for the property of the particular district where the tax was levied.

The timber men complained that in sparsely settled districts the few homesteaders who inhabited the wilds of the timber belt would vote a special road tax in order that they may be provided with employment for a large part of the year."

With the continued growth of the Estacada High School, we learn that a number of Eagle Creek boys and girls would like to attend the school, if a reasonable school children's rate could be obtained from the railroad company.

This matter will be taken up at once by the proper authorities and it is likely some arrangement can be perfected to increase the scope and usefulness of our high school.

The City of Estacada or any other city might just as well stop passing ordinances and laws, if they do not intend to enforce them. Much of the disregard shown the average law is due the fact that minor laws and regulations are not enforced.

Estacada has posted speed limit and "slow down for school" signs, warning the autoist and motorcyclist. Little attention is paid these warnings, especially by our own people and an exam-

ple will be made at once of some offender.

There is no need of waiting until some child is killed by a speeder. This same enforcement will be applied to the stock law, as complaints are being made of livestock ranging through town after hours.

Notice of Road Budget Meeting

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to Chapter 234, General Laws of Oregon 1913, and Chapter 222, General Laws of Oregon 1915, a meeting of the legal voters of Road District No. 55, Clackamas County, Oregon, will be held at School House, in said District on the 10th day of Nov., 1915 at the hour of 7 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of considering the following estimates of the amount of money to be raised by special tax in said District for the ensuing year.

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS—Improvement and maintenance of Viola to Little Clear Creek Road \$1000. Improvement and maintenance of Gerber Road \$225. Improvement and maintenance of Jim Hayden Road \$700; Improvement and maintenance of H. H. Mattoon Road \$450.

BRIDGES—None.

PROBABLE RECEIPTS—Probable receipts of said Road District from sources other than from direct taxation upon real and personal property for the ensuing year, \$2500.

BALANCES—Amount of all Balances on hand estimated, \$2400.

Subscribed by three resident freeholders of said district and by the road supervisor of said district this 15th day of October, 1915.

S. G. Kirchem, Freeholder,
R. M. Miller, Freeholder,
L. S. Tenny, Freeholder,
Geo. M. Hively, Road Supervisor,
Road District, No. 55.



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