

THE BROAD AXE.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS BY
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COR. WILLAMETTE AND EIGHTH STREETS

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X A Blue Mark

Denotes that your subscription has expired. Watch for a blue "x" opposite your name on the paper. Your subscription will expire with the next issue if marked. Please renew or give notice that you wish it continued.

In the report referred to it is shown that warrants to the amount of \$74,000 had been drawn in payment of the courthouse, furniture, etc.; "\$2400 for present ownership list" and "\$4000 for rock crushers and engines." Here is just where the people would like the judge to "make his answer more specific" and be made to furnish an itemized bill of expenditures that the court—the people—may be better prepared to form a just verdict. What are the items that go to make up the \$74,000 cost of the courthouse? Why did the rock crusher cost the county \$4,000? How were they bought, by private contracts or by bids for furnishing them at the lowest figures? What were the terms of the purchase? Were there any private considerations—such as a proviso that the person who sold the crusher to the county should let a certain person have the warrant given in payment for the crusher? Then, further, the people would like a little more light on the present ownership list item of \$2400 for that map. Was that the least you could buy the map for? Did the county contract privately for the map, or did it let the contract to the lowest bidder? Give us more light, Mr. Potter! This subject is important and it is just opening up. Your faithful assistance in the investigation may prevent an investigation by a thoroughly competent expert at the instance of a mass of taxpayers of the county.

It is really astonishing, if not exceedingly cheeky, just at present to see how solicitous republican papers are for the welfare of the populist party! They do not hesitate to advise [without charge] the party what is best for them now, just at the opening of another general election, when they have not but a few months since derided and abused it for all that is ridiculous and mean. They now tell us that we should by every consideration of policy and honor refuse to unite with other reform forces in a common effort to overthrow the party whose policy they bitterly oppose and believe will be disastrous to the republic. Such a course is transparently insulting and will result in still lowering those papers in the estimation of all sensible people.

Some More of Eh! Oh! Potters Figures.

In his statement of the financial condition of the county he admits the liabilities to be \$114,947, and claims that \$64,039 of current taxes applicable to payment of county warrants should be counted as credit against the indebtedness which he says would leave the actual indebtedness of the county to be only \$50,000.

This is a queer way to get out of debt it occurs to us. It is just like this: A, B and C owes D \$1,000, and they have got together and agreed to raise \$500 within the next year and pay on the debt, and because they have done this, simply agreed to pay that much on their debt, the debt is already paid.

Just here is what bothers us! It is having to raise that money on a 23.5 mills levy. This is where the shoe pinches. It is not so much the ability we have to meet the liability, but the amount of the liability is what is the matter. We would much rather Mr. Potter would give a detailed itemized bill of some questionable claims that have gone to make up our indebtedness.

It Avails Nothing.

What does it avail the taxpayers of Lane county today to read comparisons of the expenditures of former county administrations with the present one, if one is seen to be more extravagant than the other and has been guilty of more wrongdoing than the other, if each has committed like offenses, though differing only in degrees of guilt? He that wilfully offends in the least in duties—as an official is morally guilty of all.

A great leak to the public treasury is in the fact that both the present court and Judge Fisk's administration allowed too many deputies to the several county offices and paid them too much. The county court of Linn allow the clerk and sheriff one deputy each with a pay of \$50 per month; and the assessor of that county performs most of the work himself within the time prescribed by law which saves probably as much as a thousand dollars a year. So while Judge Fisk and his commissioners may have managed affairs more economically than the present have managed, the fact remains that a comparison of the doings of the respective courts show that neither showing avails nothing more than that each is not fit to be trusted again.

We have not heard from the editor of the brass Nugget since we pappered him with ginger! Our nules are kicking, however! They say our apology to them was unsatisfactory!

In 1898 \$13,286.87 were expended on roads and bridges, no mean amount in the makeup of county expenditures in the year. We are not prepared at present to say what was spent for like purposes from January 1 1899 to December of the same year, but we believe much more was used, including the amounts laid out for rock crushers and etc. This should be looked into, as where vast sums are expended by the peoples agents a strict accounting should always be rendered.

Blockade Raising.

We are inclined to the opinion that the quarantine recently established in the smallpox district in the western portion of the country as at present conducted amounts to but little, if anything. We make this statement because we see parties in town almost daily from that locality some of whom are just convalescent with their faces badly marked. We notice Mr. Frank Huxley of Cayote one of the deputy sheriffs appointed to guard the line of blockade, who was pretty badly scared up with this "smallpox in its discrete form" who says "Its smallpox all right and makes one awful sick." And who says Holland the other deputy sheriff out there has now taken the disease.

A more effective measure to suppress and prevent the spread of this epidemic should be adopted at once.

Complimentary.

Bro. Amis of the Eugene Broad-Axe, one of the old stand-by populists of Oregon, is working might and main for union of the reform forces. In point of years, Editor Amis is the best newspaper man in Oregon, and as a writer is among the most original and forcible—Melford Enquirer.

Bro. Mann, as a great author once said to his little dog Fido which, through its thoughtless friskiness, tore a lot of his master's manuscript, the result of years of hard toil into the fire, which was consumed: "Fido, little thou knowest what thou hast done,"—we say: "Mann, little thou knowest what thou hast done,"—but thou makest glad the heart of this "the oldest newspaper man in Oregon." Fact.

The Gold Standard Bill Passes The Senate.

Provisions of the measure: The bill, as it passed, consists of ten sections. It provides that the dollar of 25 3-10 grains of gold, nine-tenths fine shall be the standard unit of value and that all forms of United States money shall be maintained at a parity with it, and that treasury notes and greenbacks shall be redeemable in gold. The secretary of the treasury is to set apart a fund of \$150,000,000 in gold for the redemption of these notes and to maintain this fund at a figure not below \$100,000,000; he is empowered to sell bonds of the United States bearing interest at three per cent. It shall also be the duty of the secretary of the treasury, as fast as standard silver dollars are coined, to require an equal amount of treasury notes and to issue silver certificates against the silver so coined. Under certain provisions, too, gold certificates shall be issued against the gold held in the treasury.

Any national bank, by depositing with the United States bonds of this country, shall be permitted to issue circulating notes to the face value of the bonds deposited, no bank being allowed to issue circulating notes in excess of the amount of paid in capital stock of the bank.

[According to the provisions of this law, our Wildcat bank of Wildcat City on the Wildcat river in the confederacy of Long Tom, will be in it. We shall see further on.]

An American Internal Policy.

- FIRST—Public ownership of public franchises. The values created by the community should belong to the community.
- SECOND—Destruction of criminal trusts. No monopolization of the national resources by lawless private combinations more powerful than the people's government.
- THIRD—A graduated income tax. Every citizen to contribute to the support of the government according to his means and not according to his necessities.
- FOURTH—Election of senators by the people. The senate now being the private property of corporations and bosses, to be made truly representative, and the state legislatures to be redeemed from recurring scandals.
- FIFTH—National, state and municipal improvement of the public school system. As the duties of citizenship are both general and local, every government both general and local should do to share toward fitting every individual to perform them.
- SIXTH—Currency reform. All the nation's money to be issued by the nation's government and its supply to be regulated by the people and not by the banks.
- SEVENTH—No Protection for oppressive trusts. Organizations powerful enough to oppress the people are no longer "infant industries."

Direct Legislation.

- DIRECT LEGISLATION—Lawmaking by the voters.
- THE INITIATIVE—The proposal of a law by a percentage of the voters, which must then go to the Referendum.
- THE REFERENDUM—The vote at the polls of a law proposed through the Initiative or on any law passed by a lawmaking body whose reference is petitioned for by a percentage of the voters.
- THE IMPERATIVE MANDATE—Whenever a public official shall be deemed dishonest, incompetent or negligent of his duties the voters shall have the right to retire him and elect one of their choice. The people alone are sovereign.

JACKETS and CAPES.

New Goods Arrive
Weekly so you can
have a new Stock to
Select from at an
time. Prices always the Lowest.
S. H. FRIENDLY

THE Public will please take notice that I am at the same old stand on Eighth street, Eugene, Or. with a variety of goods too numerous to mention.

BURG'S VARIETY STORE

X X RAYS Gang plows
SCHUTTLER Wagons
CHAMPION Drills
GARDEN CITY Plows and Harrows

—FOR SALE BY—
M'CLANAHAN & SIMPSON

EIGHT STREET EUGENE

THE GRIFFIN HARDWARE CO.

Have the wagon you want—the new
STOUGHTON
GRIFFIN HARDWARE CO

Notice of Final Settlement.

Estate of Stephen Jenkins, deceased:
Notice is hereby given that J V and R R Jenkins, executors of said estate, have filed their account for final settlement of said estate and Monday the 5th day of March, 1900 at ten o'clock in the forenoon has been set by the Hon E G Potter, county judge of Lane county, for hearing objections to the same.
J V JENKINS
R R JENKINS
Executors.
Geo. B. DORRIS,
Attorney for estate.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Estate of Welcome Hays Mulkey, deceased:
Notice is hereby given that Louisa Mulkey has been duly appointed executrix of the estate of Welcome Hays Mulkey, deceased, by the Honorable E G Potter, county judge of Lane county, Oregon. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to the executrix at the law office of Geo B Dorris in Eugene, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice, with the necessary vouchers.
LUCISA MULKEY
Executrix.
GEO B DORRIS
Atty for estate.