

## Facts and Figures That the Taxpayers of Josephine County Should be Acquainted With

The County of Josephine is a corporation in which all the taxpayers of the county are stockholders. How many of the taxpayers and voters are familiar with the conduct of the business of the county, its financial standing and the future prospects of its business? In your private business you know where you stand. If you are a member of a private corporation or company you are familiar with all its affairs. But with the county's affairs you are more or less at sea and in many instances indifferent, rely upon what someone else says, and do not take the trouble to personally investigate or take an inventory of its business or prospects.

In 1916 the financial condition of the county was in bad shape and all warrants issued were being discounted 5 to 10 per cent with the prospect of the discount being more. Anyone working for the county had to suffer that discount. If the county wanted to purchase anything in the open market it had to pay that additional 10 per cent discount, and the warrants issued drew 8 per cent interest. It was apparent that something had to be done with the result that a new system was adopted and instead of the "General Fund" a "Current Expense Fund" system was adopted and a sinking fund established with the following result:

The county has since been on a cash basis and able to pay face for all warrants, purchase in the open market the same as any individual and thousands of dollars in interest saved:

In 1916 the outstanding warrant indebtedness of the county amounted to \$300,365.63. Up to date under the "cash" system \$147,364.04 of these warrants have been retired, the interest on the same amounting to \$49,905.67, amounting in all to \$197,269.71, leaving at present an outstanding warrant indebtedness of \$153,001.64 which under the present system is being retired annually and the interest reduced.

Under the old system, which was an unbusinesslike system, the county was going farther and farther in debt, and thousands of dollars in interest piling up to which there would have been no end.

Not only has the indebtedness of the county been materially reduced, the affairs of the county been put on a solid basis, but much improvement—in fact more improvements than ever before—been made. The county has one of the finest court houses in the state, paid for and furnished, up-to-date and modern road equipment and paid for, better roads throughout than the county ever had before, but the aid that has been secured from the state and government, which has only been secured by persistent and hard work and watchfulness and constantly on the job is an important factor to take into consideration. The following is a tabulation of the State and Government aid:

| Josephine Co. Dec. 1, 1918-Sept. 20, 1920     | Estimated total cost | Expended to date | Cost to complete |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Paving—Grants Pass to Jackson County Line     | \$128,685.50         | \$128,685.50     |                  |
| Paving—Wolf Creek-Grave Creek                 | 141,908.67           | 141,908.67       |                  |
| Macadam—Stage Road Pass, Wolf Creek           | 69,315.49            | 69,315.49        |                  |
| Grading—Stage Road Pass, Wolf Creek           | 51,054.15            | 51,054.15        |                  |
| Grading—Sexton Mountain Section               | 140,000.00           | 119,332.58       | 20,667.42        |
| Grading-Graveling—Grants Pass-Pleasant Valley | 98,000.00            | 356.16           | 97,643.84        |
| Surfacing Sexton Mountain Section             | 32,000.00            | 3,379.45         | 28,620.55        |
| Grave Creek Bridge                            | 21,500.00            | 12,143.90        | 9,356.10         |
| Hayes Hill (State)                            | 35,000.00            | 35,000.00        |                  |
| Hayes Hill (Government)                       | 26,250.00            | 26,250.00        |                  |
| Graveling Hayes Hill (State)                  | 6,000.00             |                  | 6,000.00         |
| Totals                                        | \$799,713.81         | \$587,455.90     | \$212,267.91     |

The money for the uncompleted work has all been appropriated by the State and will be spent just as fast as the contractors can do the work.

It will be seen by the above that this county has received practically \$800,000.00 from the State and Government for permanent roads and bridges in the past 21 months, which according to population and taxable property is more than any other county in the State has received.

In other words to sum up some of the main points of county business during my administration: The county has built and furnished one of the finest court houses in the State; has reduced the warrant indebtedness \$147,364.04; reduced the interest \$49,905.67; purchased and paid for modern county equipment; put the county on a cash basis; and secured for this county practically \$800,000 from the State and Government for permanent improvements on our roads, the latter making it possible for more money to be spent on the lateral roads of the county.

I am a candidate for reelection and I wish the voters to study the present conditions of the county now and when I took office, and I assure you that if I am reelected I will continue to exert my best efforts in conducting the business of the county in a businesslike, economical and progressive manner. I am familiar with the conduct of the county's business, am closely in touch with the State Highway Commission and their program, am familiar with all the roads and bridges of the county, and believe I can give the people of Josephine County the very best of service and therefore have no hesitancy in soliciting your votes at the coming election.

Yours very truly,

C. G. GILLETTE, County Judge

(Paid Advertisement)

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To become a real port, a 30-foot channel must be dredged in the Columbia and Willamette Rivers from Portland to the Pacific Ocean. This will enable farmers, stockmen and lumbermen in the interior of the state to reach the markets of the world at a lower freight rate and greater profit to themselves.

The taxing and bonding power to make these improvements can be granted the Port of Portland only by the people of the state. You and every other citizen will benefit if you, on November 2nd VOTE 310 YES ON THE BALLOT—THE PORT OF PORTLAND DOCK COMMISSION CONSOLIDATION BILL.

OREGON PORT DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE

(Paid Advertisement) L. W. Trimble, Secretary

## R. TIMMONS

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Grants Pass Residence Property

PHONE 260

OPERA HOUSE BLOCK

### FRUITDALE

E. C. Underwood and wife took dinner Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Kinkle on Savage Creek.

Mr. Terry, of Detroit, who was on his way to Portland, stopped off for a little visit with William Brietmayer and wife.

Mr. Redding has sold his interest in the Helmsle ranch to Mr. Sulton, who is now in Wolf Point, Mont.

but will soon be down to make his home on the ranch.

Mr. and Mrs. Rastall, Mrs. Ayers and daughter, Gene, and William Penn were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Florenz Brietmayer on Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Slattery and Mr. and

Mrs. Wm. Brietmayer spent three days of last week in Medford with the Dr. Elliott family.

C. G. Ament and family are living on the Coutant ranch.

John L. Stanbrough and wife made a trip over to Williams Monday.

Sam Redding and his bride are down from Marshfield visiting his parents. Their daughter, Mrs. Push, from Montana, is also with them.

Although it is November the Hamiltons are having green peas, beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, and ripe strawberries from their garden. It surely must be "the climate"—and irrigation.

Mr. and Mrs. Nazor, of Eugene, spent Saturday night and Sunday with the Ropers and in the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Linch, Mr. and Mrs. Ross and baby called.

Last Wednesday evening Mr. and Mrs. Nielson, Ernest and Robert, and the Porter family with Mrs. Porter's niece, Miss Campbell, of Medford who is a good violinist, spent a pleasant musical evening at the Hamilton home.

Miss Prudence Pardee, of Grants Pass, was dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harris last Sunday.

Mrs. Ayes, who has been here for some time for her health, expects her husband down from Portland Saturday when they will go on south for the winter.

Wednesday when Lawrence Underwood was cranking a car the crank flew off and hit him over the eye, cutting it so that three stitches had to be taken in it. He and his wife spent the night with his parents.

Mrs. F. F. Byington, of Portland, spent Monday night with Mrs. A. W. Bates.

Mr. and Mrs. Redding and son, Bryan, Carlotta Wiseman, Mr. Kahath and Henry Droulette attended a mysterious disappearance of candy seance at the Nielsons' Tuesday evening.

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