

**THE BEND BULLETIN**

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1910.

**THEORY AND PRACTICE.**

Some of our esteemed contemporaries exhibit distress over the proposal to bring before the voters in November "the Henry George plan of placing all taxes on land, and on land alone." We are not aware that the Henry George plan has been proposed or is about to be submitted to the voters of Oregon. It is possible there may be presented something tending to equalize the tax burden and in the direction of Henry George's idea. But what of it?

Could anything be more crude and more inequitable than the present taxation scheme? That all property should be equally taxed for support of government is a very fine theory, but it is not practiced. The assessor lists all the property he can find—but what about the vast quantity of invisible property? For this he has to take the word of those who own it—and it is suspected that some of them are not too fond of paying taxes and forget to give the assessor a full list of their holdings. In other words, probably the tax collector does not really reach one half of the taxable property. As a result the burden falls chiefly on visible property after all, of which land is a very important part. Those who make honest returns pay the penalty by excessive taxation.

If the land were required to pay all taxes, the system could be worked out equitably. Of course it would take a little time to adjust things to the new plan, but when it should be in operation land speculators would not find profit in holding large tracts out of use and all business would be on a more certain basis than it is now with respect to taxation. If land tax is high people will not have more land than they need, but will put their surplus wealth in other forms. Theoretically, of course, there is no reason why those other forms of wealth should not pay taxes, but as a practical question they do now very largely escape taxation and the few who do not shirk have an enormous and unjust burden to carry.

**FOR THE PRIMARY CLASS.**

A friend asks us to multiply \$5 by \$5. We do so and announce the result as \$25. Now multiply 500 cents, give the answer in cents, pure and simple, not as fractional parts of a dollar. We do and are surprised to see the figures climb up to 250,000 cents, which is \$2,500. As \$5 and 500 cents are equivalent, the result is puzzling. Can any reader explain it?

Thus saith the Laidlaw Chronicle, evidently without consulting any member of Professor Thompson's arithmetic class, who would have told the Chronicle man something to this effect:

Five dollars cannot be multiplied by \$5. The multiplier is always an abstract number, and represents the number of times the multiplicand is taken. The \$5 can be taken five times, but cannot be taken five dollars times. Hence, \$5 taken five times gives a product of \$25. Likewise, take 500 cents five times (not 500 cents times) and the product of 2500 cents is of the same value as in the other operation. In either case the multiplicand is taken five times over, and the product must be of the same name as the multiplicand, that is, dollars in one case and cents in the other. The Chronicle seems to be trying to square a concrete number, not perform an operation in simple multiplication. Arithmetic is an exact science and will not tolerate the liberty taken by the Laidlaw paper.

What a smell the "fernist" papers are making over Senator Bourne's bill to relieve entrymen on 320-acre homesteads from the requirement that they reside upon the land. The Portland Chamber of Commerce and other bodies started the ball rolling, and there was no criticism then. But now all sorts of ridicule is heaped upon the measure by the machine press. Bourne's bill is to extend to Oregon the provision that now applies only to Utah—to relieve Oregonians from the residence requirement. The requirements of cultivation, etc., which are in the law as it now stands, the machine papers are jumping on, as if they were new

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and unreasonable. The Bourne bill is just what was asked for by Oregon settlers and sympathetic public bodies. The captious critics should inform themselves of the facts before following blindly the jaundiced leadership of the Portland Oregonian. Or do they care to be intelligent and fair?

Those who think prices of Bend real estate are high should remember that the regular size of lots here is 30x140 feet, with alleys 20 feet wide running through the blocks. The area of a Bend lot is 7000 square feet. Comparison is sometimes made with lots elsewhere which are only 25x100 feet—2500 square feet, only a little more than one-third the size of Bend lots. Such comparison is misleading. We have, of course, no criticism of the smaller lots; they are as legitimate as the large ones. We call attention to the difference in size only for the purpose of correcting an impression that obtains in some quarters that "a lot is a lot," regardless of size or location.

It is indeed gratifying to note the showing made by the subscribers to the railroad right-of-way fund. It is a splendid beginning to a splendid work. The prompt payment for, and final delivery of, those titles will end, in most satisfactory manner, the first stage in Bend's relations with the railroad. "Bend has treated us well in every way. Bend can count on us for practically anything she wants." Such is a statement of a prominent Oregon Trunk official. By all means let us continue the good work so well begun.

From the reports of the Bend Public Library, elsewhere in this paper, it is apparent that that institution is something more than a mere standing advertisement for the town. It actually supplies a demand that would not otherwise be met and there is no question that its influence upon the community is highly beneficial. It should be better supported by the business interests.

It doubtless will be of interest to Bulletin readers to know that at last copies of Putnam's Magazine for January, containing the long illustrated article on the Bend country, are procurable at our office. No more extensive nor attractive description of the Deschutes Valley has appeared, and we believe all interested in Central Oregon will find it a valuable acquisition.

Every town in Central Oregon, in existence or on paper, has its particular and pet galaxy of natural resources. Hillman's greatest blessing in this direction is natural gas.

**Walker Basin Townsite.**

Secretary Aya, of the Deschutes Land Co., came down from Rosland and spent a few days in Prineville this week. While there he made arrangements with S. S. Stearns, who owns the old Findley ranch, whereby the new town of LaPine will be located on 240 acres at the northerly end of the Findley tract. Mr. Aya left this afternoon with P. B. Gould, a Seattle engineer, to lay out the new town. It will be about a mile south of Rosland, a quarter of a mile from the river, and upon the main county road and the Oregon Trunk surveyed line.

You get your money's worth when you read The Bulletin.

**LIBRARY CLUB ELECTION**

Librarian Shows Large Increase in Patronage for the Calendar Year 1909—Treasurer Has a Balance.

The Ladies' Library Club, supporting the Bend Free Library and Reading Room, held its annual meeting at the home of Mrs. F. F. Smith yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Smith was re-elected president, Mrs. C. D. Rowe was chosen vice-president, Miss Veda M. Williams secretary and Miss Mary E. Coleman treasurer.

The annual report of the treasurer showed the following receipts and disbursements:

RECEIPTS:	
Balance on hand Mar. 1, 1909	\$ 99.45
Donated to Library	50.00
Proceeds of Watermelon Social	60.70
Proceeds of Dutch Supper	60.00
Earned in serving Suppers	194.98
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$465.13</b>
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Librarian's Salary	\$120.00
For Magazines, Books, and Incidentals	190.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$310.86</b>
Balance on hand	\$154.27

The librarian, Mrs. E. D. Wilson, reported as follows for the calendar year 1909:

We have had donations from club members and friends of 46 volumes—one complete set of Shakespeare, 8 volumes. We have bought 63 books, making 117 books in addition to 144 books we had on hand January 1, 1908, making a total of 271 books on the shelves. We have had 100 books from the Oregon Library Commission. We have always kept on hand 23 monthly magazines and 5 weeklies.

	1909	1908
List of borrowers	264	154
No. books lent	1948	1303
No. visitors	4774	3397
Fines paid	\$13.35	
Incidentals	7.90	
Balance on hand	\$5.45	

The pay of the librarian was increased from \$10 to \$12 a month.

**The Cornett Stage & Stable Co.**  
 It's the mail line, the only direct stage line from Shaniko to Silver Lake, by the way of Prineville and Bend. Stopover privileges and tickets good until used.

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**Record Hog for Bend.**

Butcher White slaughtered a fine Poland China hog at his ranch last week and when it reached the shop he could not weigh it. His biggest platform scale weighs to 250 pounds. The hog was split in halves and one of the portions was entirely beyond the capacity of the scale. It is estimated that the porker weighed 600 pounds dressed for the block. It is believed to have been the finest porcine specimen ever produced in this locality.

**A Pleasant Autocar Excursion.**

The spring weather and good roads drew all the Bend school teachers out for an autocar excursion Friday afternoon. These included Misses Ruth Reid, Anne Markel, Marion West, Maud Vandeventer, Florence Young and Nona Richardson, and they picked up Misses Veda Williams, Cornelia Wilson and Helen Johnston, making a full load for the very delightful spin in the reclaimed district.

**Wanted TIMBER**

We can use more timber in a syndicate now forming. Owners wishing to sell are requested to call or write us a description of their holdings.

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