

# CRITICISM OF FOSTER BIASED

## SPRINGER'S EXPERT IS PREJUDICED

**Says Assessor Employed Deputies Contrary to Law and Belittles Statute Giving Authority—Court Expenditures Are Approved.**

Those who have had an opportunity to examine the report of Judge Springer's "expert" have been particularly struck by the words of the report so far as they relate to the assessor's office. The thing that has impressed them has been the fact that, with every apparent desire in the world to find fault and criticize, as well as to uncover irregularities even, the only complaint this "expert" could make in respect to this office he answered himself. It is true that the answer he gives is an attempt at criticism by suggesting that the assessor has employed more assistants than the law allows and paid out more in salary for them than he should have done, but it is pointed out, in making this criticism he shows the bias he has against the assessor, and makes it very clear that his object, at least in this instance, is to find fault, and if necessary, to strain a point in doing so. On the other hand the answer he makes in quoting a recent statute is wholly in the assessor's favor.

All the report has to say on the subject of the assessor is as follows: "General laws of the State of Oregon, 1913, Chapter 370, Page 751, Section 5, provides that 'The County Assessor may appoint five deputy assessors whose salaries shall be \$100 per annum each, etc.' We would direct your attention to the wide discrepancy between the provisions of this law and the number of deputy assessors as set forth in Schedule 'B', whose compensation amounts to \$4,710.72.

"While Chapter 184, page 348, Section 48 of the General Laws of Oregon, 1913, provides for necessary clerical assistance, there is a difference of \$4,210.72 between the number allowed by law and the amount they should receive, and the number actually employed and the amount they did receive.

"See Chapter 184, page 325, General Laws of Oregon, 1913."

If the only provisions of law touching on the assessor's office were those referred to in the first paragraph of this report, Assessor Foster, as his friends agree, might be open to criticism for having employed more than five deputies and paid more than \$100 a year to the deputies he did employ. This is not the only provision, however, and the "expert" recognizes this by referring to the other one in his second paragraph. The manner in which he does this shows clearly how he is out to make trouble. "While Chapter 184, Section 48, of the General Laws of Oregon, 1913," the "expert" says, "provides for necessary clerical assistance there is," etc., and there follows his criticism. Friends of Mr. Foster are asking why, if there is a statute that "provides for necessary clerical assistance," the judge's "expert" was unable to accept it as enabling Mr. Foster to do just what he has done, that is, have necessary assistance, instead of passing it off with a mere "While Chapter 184," etc. It bows, they say, that either this "expert" had his instructions to make some case, no matter what, against Assessor Foster, or else he does not know much about his business.

An examination of the section in question makes the case for Mr. Foster stronger than this "expert's" quotation inasmuch as it discloses that it provides not only for necessary clerical assistance but for "such additional deputies \* \* \* as may be necessary." The full section is as follows:

"In addition to the deputies and the clerical assistance now or hereafter provided and specified by law, each county assessor or tax collector shall be entitled to such additional deputies and clerical assistance as may be necessary properly to transact the business and perform the work of his office. Such deputies and clerical assistance shall be furnished by the County Court at the expense of the county."—General Laws of Oregon, 1913, Chapter 184, Section 48.

No suggestion is made by the "expert" that the additional deputies were not necessary to transact properly the business of the assessor's office and as the County Court has paid them for the services they have rendered it seems clear that the court thought they were necessary. This alone, say those who are acquainted with the law and the facts of the particular case, shows that the assessor is unfairly treated in this Springer-Ball report.

### BOARDS TO CONSOLIDATE?

**Movement Started to Abolish Land Board, Water Board and Engineer.**

Reports come from Salem that a movement has been started to initiate a measure at the next election to abolish the state desert land board, the state water board and the state engineer, and to have the business handled by these three departments in charge of one department, thereby effecting a reduction of expenses. Governor West is in favor of the proposal and declared that the desert land board, as now constituted, is a

useless affair, and the state engineer's office an expensive luxury. The plan is to give the one board to be created in place of the three departments authority to appoint an engineer.

YOU WOULD NOT THINK OF USING A POOR CEMENT IN CONCRETE WORK. WHY WASTE GOOD CEMENT IN BINDING TOGETHER PIECES OF CLAY, DIRT OR VEGETABLE MATTER. YOU MIGHT JUST AS WELL USE GLUE. AS FAR AS THE STRENGTH OF THE WHOLE IS CONCERNED

WE CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH WASHED SAND AND GRAVEL OF THE PROPER SIZES FOR YOUR PARTICULAR PURPOSE. ASK FOR QUOTATIONS.

**Bolton, Ruetenik & May**

FRANK MAY, Mgr. Bend, Ore.

useless affair, and the state engineer's office an expensive luxury. The plan is to give the one board to be created in place of the three departments authority to appoint an engineer.

While there is now a state engineer's department, he said, it was necessary to employ a special engineer whenever any work was to be done by the state. He said in addition to the regular appropriations made for the state engineer's office, there were always a number of extra appropriations made for work connected with that office.

"The work of the desert land board, the state engineer's office and the state water board could be handled by one board with a great deal less cost than the taxpayers are paying for those departments now," said the governor. He pointed out also that while the state engineer is secretary of the desert land board, another person is employed to do the secretarial work. The state water board also has a secretary. One of these positions would be eliminated by the proposed change.

The present incumbents of the offices that will be affected by the proposed change are John H. Lewis, state engineer; James Chinnock, of Salem, superintendent of water division 1, and George T. Cochran of La Grande, superintendent of water division No. 2. All are candidates for re-election. As members of the desert land board hold other state offices, they would not be affected.

### BEEF COW BRINGS \$105

Weight of Animal 1500 Pounds, and 7 Cents is Paid.

Raising beef cattle, which is rapidly on the increase in Central Oregon is a very profitable undertaking if properly carried on. Evidence of this is shown by the sale last week of a cow which brought the owner \$105. The animal was four years old and her weight ran up to the high sum of 1500 pounds. O'Donnell Bros. paid 7 cents a pound.

This cow was one of a bunch of 24 which O'Donnell Bros. bought of R. E. Grimes of the Pilot Butte ranch east of town. During the past 11 months this firm has not found it necessary to ship in any meat, being able to secure all that has been needed for the market in the district around Bend. The quality of the livestock has also improved greatly, they report.

### PROVE UP ON HOMESTEADS.

Three homesteaders in Whitaker valley, about 40 miles southeast of Bend, made final three-year proof on 320-acre claims Saturday before Commissioner Ellis. They were Orlea King and his brother, Richard V. L. King, and John Wolff. They acted as witnesses for each other. Each entryman has more than 40 acres in cultivation.

### LAND IS WITHDRAWN

**Government Announces That Crane Prairie Tracts are Withheld.**

Word has just been received that on January 7 the Department of the Interior withdrew the following land for co-operative irrigation work in connection with the Deschutes Project:

Township 21 S., R. 7 E., W. M.: E 1/4 NW 1/4; NE 1/4, SE 1/4 and E 1/4 SW 1/4, Sec. 1; E 1/4 NW 1/4, NE 1/4, SE 1/4 and NE 1/4 SW 1/4, Sec. 12; SE 1/4 NW 1/4, NE 1/4, SE 1/4 and NE 1/4 SW 1/4, Sec. 13; NE 1/4 Sec. 24. Township 21 S., R. 8 E., W. M. NW 1/4 W 1/4 N E 1/4 and SW 1/4 Sec. 4; All Secs. 5 and 6; N 1/4, N 1/4 SE 1/4, SW 1/4 SE 1/4 and SW 1/4 Sec. 7; All Sec. 8; W 1/4 Sec. 9; W 1/4 Sec. 16; NE 1/4 NW 1/4 and E 1/4 Sec. 17; W 1/4 NW 1/4 and NE 1/4 NW 1/4 Sec. 18.

This land is in the Crane Prairie district.

For seeds of all kinds see Skuse Hardware Company.—Adv.

### NOTICE OF CONTEST.

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, Lakeview, Oregon, January 22, 1914.

To Erik M. Anderson of last known address 209 Washington St., Portland, Oregon, Contestee:

You are hereby notified that Mary A. Johnson who gives Box 327, Bend, Oregon, c-o S. R. Hogan, as her post-office address, did on December 17, 1913, file in this office her duly corroborated application to contest and secure the cancellation of your homestead entry no. Serial No. 04785 made . . . . . 1911, for E 1/4, Section 1, Township 22 S., Range 16 E., Willamette Meridian, and as for grounds for her contest she alleges that you have wholly failed to establish and maintain your residence upon said land, have wholly failed to cultivate and improve the same as required by law; and have wholly abandoned the same for more than one year last past.

You are, therefore, further notified that the said allegations will be taken as confessed, and your said entry will be canceled without further right to be heard, either before this office or on appeal, if you fail to file in this office within twenty days after the FOURTH publication of this notice, as shown below, your answer, under oath, specifically responding to these allegations of contest, together with due proof that you have served a copy of your answer on the said contestant either in person or by registered mail.

You should state in your answer the name of the post office to which you desire future notices to be sent to you.

JAS. F. BURGESS, Register.

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Date of fourth publication Feb. 25, 1914.

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“ Redmond.....9:10 p. m.	“ Metolius.....6:15 a. m.
“ Terrebonne.....9:24 p. m.	“ Culver.....6:28 a. m.
“ Culver.....10:02 p. m.	“ Terrebonne.....7:08 a. m.
“ Metolius.....10:20 p. m.	“ Redmond.....7:23 a. m.
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Arrive Portland.....8:10 a. m.	“ Bend.....8:00 a. m.

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