

THE BEND BULLETIN
(Published Every Wednesday)

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An independent newspaper standing for the square deal, clean business, clean politics and the best interests of Bend and Central Oregon.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 2, 1914.



"THE TAX LEAGUE."

No one familiar with the matter entertains any misapprehension concerning Redmond's stand in the county division fight. Nor is there much doubt about the motives actuating those prominent in the Lower Tax League.

Redmond, because this time it feels it may not get the lion's share of the benefit, opposes a move it initiated and supported once before. The Lower Tax League leaders are interested in nothing much except keeping Crook County affairs as they now are.

You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time.

Four years ago Redmond sought county division. She worked for it and she spent her money for it. She used many of the same arguments that divisionists today are using, only then they were weaker, because the time was not so ripe and the provocation was not so strong. The reasons for the opposition that swamped her effort then are gone now; the railroads have come, development has taken on certain sure lines, differences between the several portions of the present county have widened, and, above all, a law has been put in operation which makes the machinery for county division reasonable and fair for all concerned. For instance, a permanent county seat is not chosen until two years after division is effected, at which time the people of the new county select the town they want.

Redmond's stand is regrettable. After the Jefferson county people had got to work and practically forced the southwest section into the fight—a matter of "now or never"—those interested in division here made every effort to get together with Redmond, just as they had selected lines agreeable to Prineville. Support for Redmond candidates for officials was pledged—Redmond was told, in fact, that so far as Bend was concerned she could have all the officials not justly claimed by communities other than Bend, and that all we here desired was division; let the matter of county seat be settled later, by the will of the voters.

But Redmond refused to co-operate on any terms. She announced her hostility. She attempted no logical arguments, but started harking simply because she feared that the majority of the people in the proposed new county would not back her in a county seat fight. It showed the great difference four years can make.

The Lower Tax League is well named. The title is a sort of political sticky fly paper designed to catch foolish flies who have votes.

Let it be understood clearly that every man who is backing the formation of Deschutes and Jefferson counties does so because he wants lower taxes. The divisionists are, indeed, the original lower tax league. We can offer no better advice than for every division booster to join that League! We all believe that division will mean lower taxes and better government. We all are certain that retaining the present county means constantly increasing taxes and government unsatisfactory to the widely separated and vastly different areas comprising Crook county.

It is not a sudden interest in economy that has awakened the Lower Tax League members. What they want is to keep the county as it is.

For instance, two abstractors are on the anti-division committee created by a portion of the Prineville Commercial Club. One of them paid 1913 taxes amounting to \$20.67, the other \$22.26. How much do you suppose they care for the tax levy? And how much for their private business? Of course their stand is justified, from a commercial standpoint; only it should be understood, so that their zeal may be comprehended and their arguments discounted.

Don't be fooled by a name. The "Lower Tax League," has a good title but its origin is tainted. It was sired by jealousy and damed by cupidity.

HOWARD VS. HOWARD.

Now comes W. W. Howard, ex-cashier of the Central Oregon Irrigation Company, who makes grave charges against Roscoe Howard, manager of that company.

W. W. Howard's statement is printed in detail in this paper. Roscoe Howard's position is a matter of public record to the settlers of the community.

Whatever the motives that actuate

the ex-cashier in his disclosures, their interest and value is considerable. Few who read them will doubt their substantial truth. Those who have smelled smoke for many moons will not be astonished to get a glimpse of real fire.

There probably is nothing actually criminal in the actions of the company officials discussed in the Howard statement. Perhaps even if its direct charges and indirect inferences can be proved it indicates nothing technically "crooked." It does, however, most certainly point to a rotten state of affairs. It shows enough to make one feel that when the light of publicity is turned upon those books, far worse things may materialize.

Roscoe Howard's position has been neither an easy one nor a pleasant one. He often has been damned for that which was no fault of his. But for the most part he has made the bed he lies in. He has failed to show a reasonably honest spirit in his dealings with the settlers. His loose statements, publicly and concisely made, concerning a cash bond which actually did not exist, lessened his weight as a teller of unadulterated truth. And when one day he publicly welcomes an examination of his books by settlers, and the next day refuses such examination and says he did not make the offer which a score of sane men heard him make, his reputation wanes further and his position becomes weaker. On his behalf the word "misunderstanding" seems to have been overworked.

The settlers already have received the assurance of the Land Board that the State Accounting Department will audit the C. O. I. books. These new charges, made with a degree of weight, should hasten that investigation. If Roscoe Howard is being maligned, he should welcome an action which will clear his skirts. If the settlers are being misled, everyone but those fattening at the trough they keep filled should be glad to see a prompt righting of their wrongs. And the Water Users' Association should leave no stone unturned to assure that the examination be a competent and a thoroughgoing one.

CO-OPERATION.

The people who are working for the formation of Deschutes county and of Jefferson county are fighting for a common cause. Their interests are practically identical. Their arguments are the same, and the opposition that fights one fights the other. In a great measure the success of the division movement in one territory depends upon its success in the other, and the co-operation of the two districts is essential, not only when it comes time to vote but also in combatting the attacks of those who oppose the entire division move.

Therefore The Bulletin is urging its readers to remember that a square deal and good business demands that they boost Jefferson county along with Deschutes county, and especial-

ly that they vote for the formation of BOTH counties when they go to the polls. We have not the slightest doubt that the people of the North End will reciprocate and do all they can to help us get our county.

Both moves are sound and fair, and those urging division in the North, as here, seek the same ends—lower taxes, taxes spent where they originate, and more economy in county administration which alone can be effected by making the units of administration smaller.

When England's expeditionary force was being landed in France to join in the fight against Germany, the British press refrained from any mention of the great movement; neither names of regiments, places of embarkation or numerical strength appeared in the news. Yet there was no strict censorship; the Government simply had informed the papers that such information, if published, would hurt England's position by divulging information to the enemy. So the press remained silent. It was a splendid example of real patriotism.

The painful contrast is the policy too often pursued by some American newspapers, notably those owned by Hearst. No dirtier example of yellow journalism, for instance, is on record than when Hearst deliberately faked a message, published in his papers as having come to the Niagara Peace Commissioners from Carranza just when the Mexican clouds were clearing. It was a vile effort to create an unnecessary war, and brazenly jingoism carried to the utmost extreme. In a time of crisis Hearst bends all his powers to creating war and hampering the government. In a time of crisis abroad the English dailies rally remarkably well to their government. Thinking people revile one and applaud the other.

The Crook County Journal contained an important notice to tax payers regarding the meeting of the Board of Equalization, which The Bulletin reprints elsewhere in this paper, so that people on the west side may see it. Another instance of the unsatisfactory condition with a remote county seat? As it is, the only way west siders get official county news placed before them is when west side papers dig it up and reprint it.

The news of Burns' disaster is a matter of sincere regret to Bend people. We sympathize with our neighbors to the east and we admire their spirit in building for the future instead of vainly regretting the past.

WALKING TO BOSTON.

A couple named Cavaliere arrived in Bend on Saturday on a Weston-the-walker trip from Portland to Boston. They are advertising a certain make of shoe, the pairs they started out in being guaranteed to last for the whole trip. Saturday night and Sunday they sang at the Dream Theatre.

WAR NEWS
THE PAST WEEK

While enormous military engagements have been progressing in Europe during the last week, there has been a dearth of anticlimactic news, thanks to the censorship.

On the French border the Germans have had the best of the fighting. The French-British lines have been forced back toward Paris, and distinct minor victories have been credited to the Kaiser's forces. The losses have been terrific. Paris is preparing for a siege, and unless Russian invasion from the northeast compels Germany to turn her attention thither there seems good reason to believe that Paris will be invested. The Germans heavily outnumber the allies.

While Germany denies it, apparently the Russian advance through Prussia is overwhelming, and Berlin may be threatened soon. Russia claims that she will throw eight million men against Germany. Austria seems to be having the worst of her struggle with the Russian bear.

A naval engagement in the North Sea, near Germany's Heligoland fortresses, resulted in a brilliant minor naval victory for the British fleet. Two German cruisers and two destroyers were sunk. The British lost no vessels and few men. Germany's fleet is kept sheltered in her fortified ports.

Japan is proceeding actively against German possessions in the Orient. She is besieging Kiau-Chau. Turkey has mobilized and undoubtedly will enter the war on the side of Austria and Germany. Great Britain has notified Constantinople that such a move is equivalent to signing her own death warrant as a nation.

France has called out her last line of reserves. England is making titanic efforts to enlist all its young men under the colors, the Government emphatically stating that the Empire is in the gravest danger.

COMMERCIAL CLUB IS TO DISCUSS INITIATIVE LAWS

Three Measures to be Taken up Each Week at Saturday Luncheons—Telephone Committee Appointed

From now to election day the Saturday noon meetings of the Commercial Club are to resemble those of a debating society as well as an eating club. In order to enable the members to familiarize themselves with the various constitutional amendments and initiative laws to be voted on in November they are to be discussed, three each week, by speakers who will talk for and against each measure.

At the meeting last Saturday a motion to undertake this discussion was passed. The measures to be taken up at the next luncheon are the constitutional amendment creating the office of lieutenant governor on which C. W. Erskine will take the affirmative and J. A. Eastes the negative, the amendment permitting the state to lend its credit for irrigation and reclamation purposes, C. N. Hudson affirmative and H. W. Sawyer negative, and the Painless Parker dentistry bill, Dr. J. H. Connors affirmative, and Dr. B. Ferrell, negative.

All voters, whether members of the club or not, are invited to attend these meetings and hear the discussion.

Other business done last Saturday was the appointment of a committee to confer with several representatives of the Deschutes Mutual Telephone Company on effecting a connection between their lines and the city of Bend. The telephone men here were J. J. Ellinger of Redmond, C. H. Miller of Prineville, and Fred Wilson of Laidlaw. All spoke of the advantages of their telephone system and urged that the business men of the town arrange for connections. It is understood that the idea is looked on with favor if satisfactory arrangements can be made and that the committee is now working on the matter.

The club luncheon next Saturday will be at the Pilot Butte.

SERIOUS FIRE AT BURNS

Half of Town Destroyed Monday—No Water System to Fight Flames

BURNS, Sept. 1.—Fire here Monday afternoon wiped out two and a half blocks of frame buildings, destroying more than half of the business portion of the town. The blaze started in McKinney's livery stable, presumably from spontaneous combustion in green alfalfa, and burned so quickly that 24 horses were burned to death.

It wiped out all the block containing the stable, the block to the east of that one, and then jumped the Harney County Bank building, which is of stone, and consumed another half block. The French Hotel, three saloons, the barn, a pool hall, Chinese restaurant and barber shop are total losses. Burns has no water system, water supply being from wells alone.

Today a mass meeting was held and action started to vote bonds for a water system immediately.

U. S. Separators and milk cans. Skuse Hardware Company.—Adv.

MUSIC TEACHING.

Miss Francis Williams of the Whitman Conservatory of Music, Walla Walla, is prepared to give instruction in piano and vocal music here this winter.—Adv

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Bend's Cash Store

CHURCH NOTICES

Presbyterian.
Sunday services will be as follows: Sunday school at 10:00 a. m., preaching at 11. Preaching at 8:00 p. m. The Union prayer meeting will be held in the Presbyterian church on Wednesday evening and will be in charge of Rev. E. G. Judd. H. C. Hartranft.

Catholic.
Services on Sunday at 10:30.

Baptist.
Bible school 10 a. m. Preaching service 11 o'clock. Special music. Young Peoples' meeting 7 p. m. Preaching service at 8. The Lord's supper will be observed at the close of the morning service. The Sunday school picnic will be held Thursday, the 3rd, and will leave the church at nine o'clock. All members of the school and their relatives are invited. The Union prayer meeting will be held in the Presbyterian church this Wednesday evening. E. G. Judd, pastor.

NOTICE TO SCHOOL PUPILS.
Pupils of the high school are requested to report at 10 o'clock a. m., Monday, September 7, for registration. Pupils of grades below high school may draw books at the Bend building between 1 and 4 p. m. Saturday, September 5th, or during the same hours on Monday, September 7th. J. B. SHUEY.

Meals at the Altamont 25 and 25 cents.—Adv.

NOTICE TO ODD FELLOWS.
There will be a special open meeting on account of official visitation of Grand Master Galloway of Salem, Friday evening, September 4, in Satter's Hall. All members are urged to attend and relatives and friends of the order are cordially invited. BERT SHUEY, N. G.

Chicken dinner tonight at the Bend Hotel. 6 to 8:30.—Adv.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY.
FOR SALE—Jersey cow. See N. W. Cooper at Murphy rooming house, Greenwood avenue. 24-27



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