

**The Times-Herald**

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**JULIAN BYRD** - Manager

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Saturday, January 17, 1925

**WHY BE FOOLISH**

Ex-assessor Caldwell in a statement in this issue insinuates that the publisher of The Times-Herald deliberately failed to insert a notice of meeting of the county board of equalization for the year 1924. Mr. Caldwell knows better. There isn't a fair minded citizen in Harney county or any acquaintance of the publisher of this paper who believes he would intentionally leave out a legal notice of any character.

Mr. Caldwell says, further, that he has depended upon the publisher of this paper for the last eight years to see that the notice of meeting of the board of equalization was published. The publisher didn't know he had assumed such intimate relationship to the assessor's office—he certainly does not hold such a position with any other county officer, nor any attorney who has been entrusted important legal notices to his paper from time to time in the past twenty-seven years of active charge of this publication.

The publisher knows that he has been asked to copy the notice of the meeting of the board of equalization from a competitor during the time Mr. Caldwell was assessor and another time the notice appeared in the other paper before it appeared in The Times-Herald. Who was responsible for that?

**SOCIAL GATHERING**

Mrs. W. M. Sutton entertained The Ladies Library Club, at cards on Saturday, Jan. 10th. A very delightful afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Neil Setch received the first prize, a very handsome flower basket, and Mrs. Robt. Lowe the consolation a pretty vase.

Delicious refreshments were served.

Entertaining with Mrs. Sutton were Mrs. A. C. Welcome, Mrs. W. A. Gowan, Mrs. M. B. Gilbert, Mrs. James Girard and Miss Cook.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. W. A. Gowan on Jan. 24th.

**FARM POINTERS**

Oregon celery growers were misinformed last week when inadvertently told that the experiment station says there is "a" certain cure for heart rot or other diseases, instead of "no" certain cure as was intended. Unlike newspaper men who lay their mistakes to the devil, news service men have no delusions and no alibis—we did it. So while spraying with Bordeaux mixture may not be depended on as a sure cure it is believed by the station to be beneficial even though not enough so to hold the disease in check. Since it is chiefly the old leaves, trimmings and left over plants that carry the disease through the winter these should be avoided by planting on soil that has not been in celery for one or two years.

Mr. and Mrs. David Jones were among our Silver creek visitors during the present week looking after some business matters and renewing acquaintances.

**Mr. Caldwell's Defense.**

To the Taxpayers of Harney County: I have hesitated making any remarks on the tax questions involving Harney County Tax rolls, but after reading Mr. Byrd's article in The Times-Herald in regard to the Notice of the Board of Equalization meetings which he neglected publishing I am forced to defend myself.

Mr. Byrd has been notified for eight years to publish notice of Equalization meetings by a verbal request from the Assessor's office and this is the first time he has failed to do so. Thinking he would do so as usual I did not examine his paper to see if the notice was published. The law does not state that you furnish a written notice to the publisher. It merely states that the Assessor shall have said notice published. I requested Mr. Byrd to publish the notice and told him the date of the meeting.

I wish it understood that I am not trying to place any of my responsibilities upon Mr. Byrd or anyone, but I do feel that after giving The Times-Herald 98% of my business during my eight years as Assessor, that in falling down on this important publication Mr. Byrd has displayed as great an error as myself and deserves as much criticism, and has shown a very small appreciation of patronage.

As I see them, these questions in regard to the tax rolls are not as serious as some are making them. They are more or less the outcome of politics and the remarks of our one big tax dodger.

In regard to the 1921 tax roll, I know beyond a doubt the statement charging the Sheriff with the collection of taxes for that year was pasted in the roll and was either removed or lost out. The statement for 1922 was overlooked. For 1923 the statement was placed in the Roll in August and clears the matter for that year.

I deserve some criticism for negligence and I am not trying or wish to evade any just responsibilities, but a great deal of this talk is just to satisfy revenge and nothing else.

Much of this controversy has been caused and started by the representatives of the Eastern Oregon Live Stock Co.

During my first term as Assessor I counted the Company's cattle, after being ordered not to do so, and that started a sore spot.

The last three years there has been no controversy over the Eastern Oregon Live Stock Company's assessments, but nevertheless they are making the statements that they are going to beat Harney County out of \$20,000.00 penalties and interest. When they beat Harney County who's pockets does it come out of? Yours, mine and every other taxpayer's.

Why should any individual or corporation try to escape a just tax or a just penalty and interest. We all know our county cannot function without taxation and I contend it is a disgraceful act for any taxpayer, large or small, to try to escape any penalty or interest fixed by law when there has been no controversy over assessments.

This big corporation expects the County to accept their tax payments without charging the legal rate of interest and penalties, and they have asked the County Court to settle on their terms. You do not hear of any small tax payers making such requests, or any of the other corporations, and why should the Eastern Oregon Live Stock Co? It shows upon its face that they are a bunch of tax dodgers and not willing to meet the other tax payers on an equal footing and assume their just share of the responsibilities. A mere technicality in a tax roll does not

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give any tax payer just grounds for escaping taxes.

I wish to state again that any criticism I justly deserve I am willing to accept, and I am leaving these matters in your hands to decide on and criticize as you see fit.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN L. CALDWELL.

**SENATOR DAVIS HAS GOOD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

This office is in receipt of a letter from Senator Geo. E. Davis in which he announces he has been made chairman of the irrigation committee and is also a member of Assessment and Taxation, Engross Bills, Judiciary, Election and Privileges and Game Committees.

**OREGON DAIRYMEN MEET TO CONSIDER INTERESTS**

(From Department of Industrial Journalism Oregon Agricultural College.)

Consideration of a dairy legislative program and discussion of important dairy production and manufacturing problems are scheduled for consideration by the Oregon dairymen at a conference and general meeting at McMinnville January 19-21.

The conference will be held by members of the legislative committees of the state dairymen's association and buttermakers' association.

and leading dairy groups and individuals of Oregon. It will be held on Monday preceding the general meetings Tuesday and Wednesday. The aim is to unite as far as possible the leaders in the various fields of dairying and related industries in support of a satisfactory legislative program for the legislature now in session.

Both conference and meeting are called by Chester L. Mulkey, president of the Oregon Dairymen's association, to meet in the chamber of commerce rooms at McMinnville. An effort will be made to study every measure proposed and arrive at an understanding as to those that should be sponsored. Representatives of the following interests are among those invited:

Milk dealers, feed dealers, ice cream, butter and cheese makers, breed associations, farm organizations state and city milk officials, and state college extension service and experiment station.

The president's address will be given Tuesday forenoon. The banquet will be held Tuesday evening in the hotel Edgerton. Thirty-two years of dairying in Oregon and the future of dairying will be a feature by William "Uncle Bill" Schulmerich.

Handling the herds, making up the products, growing the dairy feeds and cooperative marketing are some of the vital phases of the work to be considered. Some aspects of the

labor situation will be discussed by George A. Palmier of the state orange, Herbert Eggert of the farm-union, and W. J. Stack of the state labor federation.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Rogers and little son came over from Bend during the week and were guests at the John Gemberling home.

Manure is effective in clearing land of "black alkali" in Oregon when used in connection with sulfur and gypsum, but not alone. Studies by the experiment station indicate that heavy applications of sulfur alone will be effective, but further investigations are under way.

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