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DOINGS AT THE COURT HOUSE

Items of Interest to the Taxpayers of Josephine County
 From the Various County Officials

Taxpayers Very Well Pleased.
 Although the Josephine County Board of Equalization was in session during the whole of last week, for the purpose of hearing any complaints which taxpayers might feel inclined to make about the manner in which their worldly belongings had been assessed by Mr. Fallin, yet only a very few persons took advantage of the opportunity. All of which only goes to indicate that the people of this county, realizing that their efficient assessor had in former years striven to do his duty, were content to let him decide what proportion of the public stipend they should pay. Now the matter will stand practically as Assessor Fallin had figured it out, as there is no state board to come in and demoralize matters, as is the case in many states. Oregon law makers, believing that each county is able to settle these things for itself, inasmuch as the various counties have different interests, has done away with the plan which is in force in other commonwealths with regard to this proposition, and it is proving to be a very wise move. The proceedings of the Board of Equalization will be found on another page of today's Courier.

County Money Safely Kept.
 Although County Treasurer J. T. Taylor has removed his headquarters from the Model Drug Store, where he has been so long stationed, to the new office provided for him and superintendent Savage and Surveyor Perkins, in the brick building across the street from the courthouse, yet he does not carry the county's cash in that building. He has a poor safe, in which, during the day he can have some of the records, but until the large, new fire and burglar proof safe which the county commissioners are figuring upon arrives, he will have no county money in that place. He leaves the safe open and the door ajar, so no foolish burglar, who might be prowling around, would go to the trouble of blasting open the doors. However, he hopes, one of these days, to have the proper conveniences for carrying on the work of his office.

Delinquent Taxpayers Coming in.
 Deputy Sheriff Smith is still working on the roll of delinquent taxpayers and he will have the property all listed in time to turn it over to the county commissioners at their next meeting, Wednesday, November 6, when that body will order that it be published and sold as in former years. The new law which was supposed to have done away with the customary publishing of these delinquencies has been found to be null and void and so the old regime will still be in vogue. Although there are still many pieces of property throughout the county upon which the taxes have not been paid, yet Deputy Smith is of the opinion that many property owners will manage to drop into the Sheriff's office before next Wednesday and thus save themselves some extra expense and much trouble. He does not know just how the number and amount of delinquencies will compare with those of last year, but thinks that the volume will be about the same. This fact, when it is considered that there has been a very material increase in the total assessed valuation of the county right along, is a good indication, in itself. It goes to show that the people of this county are paying more taxes and that they have much more means with which to pay, than in former years.

County Jail Still Empty.
 And again is the county battle empty! Sheriff Russell thinks that it is a burning shame to have this fine jail empty so much and for so long a time. Of course he would like to be earning his salary, but unless there is more lawbreaking and devilry of some kind going on, he may have his conscience sorely tried. He should remember that the average taxpayer will be glad to have this county hold the banner for having the fewest law breakers of any county in the state. They realize that such facts speak volumes for the peaceful, law-abiding class of people who live within its confines and that many an easterer will be most favorably impressed with such an unusual state of affairs. So, Mr. Sheriff, don't worry over the fact that your receptacle for criminals remains empty. All the good people of Josephine county will rejoice that such is the case.

Much Realty Changing Hands.
 Deeds for the transfer of real estate were filed as follows:
 Mary E. Umphlett, et mar to Frank

Today will close the second month of the school year throughout Josephine county and Superintendent Savage will then proceed to carefully examine the report of the various districts, in order to ascertain how thoroughly the truant officers in the county are performing their duties. This is a very important matter and it behooves every such officer to bestir himself and get the youngsters into the school, as the law explicitly provides.

County Treasurer J. T. Taylor is about recovered from the effects of the bad tumble he took, when he fell from off his bicycle, while spinning around the country, the other day. As the time for the annual Josephine County Teachers' Institute approaches, interest in the affair increases. It will be held at the High school building, in this city, next week, the dates being November 6, 7 and 8. Superintendent Savage is in receipt of word from Prof. C. H. Jones, publisher of the Oregon Teachers' Monthly, stating that it will be impossible for him to attend the gathering. Prof. Jones was to have had charge of the singing during the institute and now other arrangements will have to be made.

Charles D. Sexton has petitioned the court, asking that he be appointed guardian of the person and estate of David M. Sexton, insane person. The court has set Wednesday, November 6th, as the time for hearing and passing upon said request.

An order confirming the sale of lots 5 and 6, block 67, of Fulton's Park addition to Portland which was sold by Roy G. Kremer, administrator of the estate of Alice Kremer, deceased to J. Running, for the sum of \$1000, has been made by the court.

Marriage licenses were issued during the past week to the following couples: John Lowden, of Jackson county and Jessie Wilson of Josephine county and to Wm. H. Dana and Loretta J. Neely, both of Grant Pass.

AMONG THE LODGES

Last evening the members of Westonka tribe, No. 30, Improved Order of Redmen, gave a dancing party in the Medford opera house. Extensive preparations were made for the event and no pains or expense were spared to make the occasion a memorable one.

Friday evening the members of Malta Commandery, No. 8, Knights Templar had an interesting session. Considerable business of importance was transacted, after which came the customary banquet and social time.

It is understood that several of the Grants Pass secret orders have in contemplation the giving of balls and similar entertainments. The committees will soon be appointed and then preparations on a large scale will be commenced.

Already the members of the various Masonic orders in Grants Pass are beginning to make plans for the next meeting of the Oregon Grand Commandery Knights Templar, which will convene in this city next September. It will be the first time that important gathering has been held in this city and it is proposed to make it a grand success in every sense of the word. Some of the prominent men of the state will be in attendance and this will give the people of Grants Pass a most excellent opportunity to do some most effective advertising by helping entertain these visitors. If the Commercial Club will take the matter up and provide for entertaining the guests with automobile trips and like attractions, while the local lodge

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men look after the arrangements inside the lodge room, the event can be made one of lasting importance. Hon. L. L. Jewell, who holds an exalted office in the Grand Commandery was instrumental in inducing the assembly to come here and the Masons of Josephine county want to see them right royally entertained.

Tuesday evening the Mark Master degree was conferred upon a candidate by the members of Resauce Chapter, No. 28, Royal Arch Masons, at a special meeting. This order is in a thriving condition and special meetings are being held every week, in order to put the numerous candidates through the gauntlet.

This evening Rogue River Camp No. 55 Woodmen of the World will hold an important meeting and after the transaction of business, there will follow a banquet and the social time.

That was indeed a very welcome surprise which awaited the members of Takilma Tribe, No. 29, Improved Order of Redmen, Monday evening, when, upon retiring from the lodge room, they found that the fairer sex, members of Wenonah Council, No. 10, Degree of Pocahontas, had set a tempting spread for them in the banquet hall. Of course it is needless to add that they did ample justice to the many good things and one and all had a delightful evening.

The Woodmen of the World have again leased the upper floor of the Jewell-Frye building over the Hair-Riddle establishment, their present quarters, for a period of three years from this date. They will continue to sub-let the lodge rooms to other orders, as in the past.

Social meetings are being called every week by Malta Commandery, No. 8, K. T., for the conferring of the Red Cross, Malta and Knight Templar degrees upon the numerous candidates who are in waiting.

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