

DO YOU WANT YOUR TAXES INCREASED?

One of the Results of County Division Would Be to Make Assessments Larger.

Many people in Oregon own property in different parts of the state. Nearly every property owner, in one way and another, would be affected if the county division scheme is not voted down. One of the results of the scheme would be to increase the people's taxes; in some cases, taxes would be doubled. But the people will be guided by sane judgment and will vote "No" to all these measures which, declares the Eugene Register, were foisted upon the public by professional politicians and ambitious little towns. That paper says editorially:

"Nine county division schemes are bidding for enactment under the initiative, in imitation of Hood River county's success two years ago, and the end is not yet. Here is direct legislation gone to seed and disseminating trouble through the fair expanse of Oregon, says the Oregonian.

"The latest is Deschutes county, presenting a petition to the secretary of state and asking to be carved out of the northwest part of Crook county. Umpqua, Williams and Nesmith, with overlapping boundaries, seek independence from Lane and Douglas counties. Umatilla county is wrestling with the ambitious schemes of Orchard and Hudson. Clark desires separation from Grant, Otis from Malheur and Harney. A strip of Clackamas seeks annexation to Multnomah.

"Politicians, office seekers and ambitious little towns are putting up these county partition schemes. More counties will provide additional official places and other patronage. They will also make higher taxes and more trouble for property owners.

"It is reaching a point in Oregon where the electorate will feel obliged to vote uniformly against all these new counties. The voters cannot inform themselves on the many local details involved, in order to legislate, therefore they are likely to take the view that their safest action will be that of voting "No" on the "whole bunch."

"The Oregonian's position on this matter is correct. It should add, however, that it is important for those who oppose this wholesale formation of new counties to be sure and vote as they feel about it, and put a "No" in front of each one or every proposed new county will carry. The people can put it up to the legislature to frame a fair and just division law that will leave formation of new counties to the territory thus affected and relieve the whole state of responsibility for county formations. This is what the people want and they will get it if they vote "No" on all proposed county schemes at the November election."

SELFISH MOTIVES BEHIND IT.

Office Seekers Promoting County Division Schemes.

Avowed office seekers seem to be among those who are promoting the cause of county butchering in Oregon, according to the Grants Pass Observer in its issue of July 29. Furthermore, the people generally have no conception of local situations as affecting counties where the cry for

division is heard. Only about one in ten voters would know what they were voting for. Therefore, the best way is to vote "No" to all of the measures, urges the Observer:

"Two years ago the people voted to form the new county of Hood River out of a section of Wasco county. It is safe to say that 90 voters out of a hundred had no acquaintance with the conditions or geography of the county they divided. The voters will be asked next November to do a good deal more of this kind of county butchering. People who are not at all acquainted with the various territories, will be asked to slice Crook county and make a new county to be called Deschutes. It is proposed to carve up Lane and Douglas counties, and constitute the three new counties, Umpqua, Williams and Nesmith. Umatilla is prey for two proposed new counties, Orchard and Hudson. A piece of Grant county is to be asked to make Clara county, while Harney and Malheur may be clipped off a little to make room for Otis. It is really scandalous and only possible under the initiative. The trouble is that the performance is just commencing and it is not easy to see where it will end. The best way, the only right way, is to vote "No" to all these local measures, of which the people as a whole have no information. The Observer has no idea of the rights in any of these cases, but believes they are just selfish schemes to make little towns county capitals and supply several good county offices for the promoters."

AN ASTOR DEAL.

The Only Time That Old John Jacob Sold Real Estate.

"One of the most stringent real estate rules of the Astor family is 'never sell,' and only one sale is recorded in the entire life of old John Jacob Astor," said Niles F. Watkins, a real estate broker of New York. "In 1830 Astor tore down his house in Broadway, cleared the whole block from Vesey to Barclay street and built the huge Quincy granite hotel known as the Astor House, which was one of the first notable landmarks in New York and also one of the best paying pieces of property.

"A few days after it was finished the old gentleman and his eldest son, William, were walking through City Hall park, where the postoffice now stands, and stopped a moment to admire the building, the finest hotel in America at that time.

"Pop, that's a mighty fine building," said William. "I wish to gracious it was mine."

"So?" answered the father. "Well, Billy, give me \$1 and you can have it."

"Out came the dollar—a big silver dollar that is cherished by the family to this day—and within an hour the deed of the property was made out and recorded. This was old Mr. Astor's only sale of real estate in his life."—Washington Herald

Westminster Hall.

Westminster hall, England's old hall of the king's justice, is one of the world's notable historical shrines. Built four centuries before Columbus sailed for America, burned, restored, remodeled, it has seen more history in the making than perhaps any other building west of Rome. Here some of the early parliaments met, and here the second Edward was expelled from his throne. Here Richard II. was deposed, Charles I. condemned and Cromwell hailed as lord protector, whose head, if the legend is authentic, was afterward exposed from one of the hall's pinnacles. Westminster hall was the scene of the trial of Warren Hastings. In its sentence of death was pronounced on William Wallace, Sir Thomas More, Somerset, Essex, Strafford and Guy Fawkes.—New York World.

Tried to Fly.
John Milton in "Britain to the Conquest" says that the youth King Harold, last of the Saxons, strangely aspiring, had made and fitted wings to his hands and feet. With these, on the top of a tower, spread out to gather the air, he flew more than a furlong; but, the wind being too high, he came fluttering to the ground, maiming all his limbs, yet so concealed was he of his art that the cause of his fall was attributed to the want of a tail, as birds have, which he forgot to make.

A Possible Exception.
Wife—Isn't it a fact, dear, that handsome men are proverbially disagreeable? Husband—Well, I don't know. I always try to be pleasant.

(Paid Advertisement.)
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