

SPAPER
 25c
 12c
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 Rates.
 \$1.50
 \$2.00
 .75
 .50
 MARCH 3, 1916
 to C. A. Barrett's
 instead of a bond
 he voted for road
 East Oregonian
 me for a ser-
 ving some
 radiating
 Press is
 Barrett's
 oment, it
 ore that
 ment
 here
 vi-
 the
 clou-
 ces is:
 ate line,
 Umattila,
 Pilot Rock,
 Felix, \$140,
 Rock Junc-
 to Sunnyside
 plus from bonds,
 is proposed appor-
 it appears that
 "radiated" all but
 bond issue, and \$50,000
 surplus. Athena, Wes-
 Milton, presumably, will be
 split with Pendleton in the
 radiation, the sum of \$300,
 for construction of the
 state line unit; but where
 surface road to the Co-
 as in?

Live Stock Reporter
 so often some one gets
 "ation" bee. It was
 and shippers made
 grievous results,
 those and farmers are ad-
 there is danger in an "over-
 tion." This over-production
 simply demonstrated by hog
 laws—one of the most pro-
 in this great country of
 according to the latest govern-
 ments of the number of hogs
 the United States, Iowa heads the
 list with a total of 9,009,000
 hogs. Under the circumstances, it
 is not to be wondered at that the breed-
 ing and feeding of hogs is the leading
 topic of discussion at the farmers' in-
 stitutes and other gatherings of agri-
 cultural folk. This "over-production"
 idea doesn't seem to be bothering Iowa
 very much.

The Echo News is taken with the
 wonders of the administration as ad-
 ministered by the boundary board as
 illustrated recently in changing the
 boundaries of School District No. 5.
 The News says:
 "This district was bonded eight
 years ago for \$25,000. The bonds were
 sold and are in the hands of pri-
 vate investors throughout the United
 States. The security behind these
 bonds was the taxable property with-
 in the school district. Now comes the
 district boundary board and excludes
 from the district about three sections
 of land, all taxable property. If they
 diminish the security of the bonds
 binding three sections they can
 still more, or do away with
 together by chopping up District
 No. 5 and distributing the land among
 the surrounding districts."

Safety First is not a question of
 dollars and cents; it is a question of
 saving human life, the most valuable
 thing in the world, which, once gone,
 can never be brought back. It is try-
 ing to save men from losing their legs
 and their arms which can never be
 replaced. It is trying to save the
 making of widows and orphans, des-
 titution and misery. Neither the
 officers nor the laws can do it. But
 the workers can do it if they try.
 Think this over—and then try.

Taxes in Washington county will be
 based on a county levy of 16.5 mills
 this year. In those districts where no
 high school is maintained the levy is
 17.1 mills, to meet high school edu-
 cation.

MAYOR WATTS' STATEMENT.

To the voters of the City of Ath-
 ens:—In the past few days, innum-
 erable questions have been asked me
 relative to the financial condition of
 the town. I find that the city records
 are very imperfect and it is exceed-
 ingly difficult to find accurate and com-
 plete statements. For the benefit of
 those who are interested in the affairs
 of the city, and those who were un-
 able to attend the meeting in the
 High school auditorium Wednesday
 evening, I am submitting a synopsis
 of the finances for the past few years,
 showing what it has taken to run the
 city; what it is costing now; what
 our indebtedness is and when created.
 There is now \$28,000.00 bonded in-
 debtedness, \$12,000 of this was issued
 in 1895 and was payable in 30 years;
 last January we had to re-bond to take
 up this. There was no sinking fund to
 meet these bonds. In 1905, \$16,000.00
 more were issued. The annual interest
 on this amounts to \$1530.00; these are
 all water bonds.
 What the outstanding warrants were
 in 1905, I am unable to find but pre-
 sume that all the indebtedness was
 taken up in the bonds issued at that
 time.
 The first report I find on financial
 conditions was December 4 1911.
 There were then, beside the bonded
 indebtedness I have spoken of, out-
 standing warrants of \$10,054.61; cash
 on hand \$1592.93; a sinking fund of
 about \$500.00.
 On December 6, 1915 there were
 outstanding warrants of \$3400.00;
 cash on hand \$1139.30 sinking fund of
 \$1240.59.
 You can see that from the year 1905
 until 1911 the city ran behind some-
 thing like \$10,000. From 1911 until
 1915, the running expenses were kept
 up and approximately \$8000.00 of in-
 debtedness paid.
 In the year 1908, Mr. Taylor was
 mayor and C. A. Barrett was a coun-
 cilmember. The assessed valuation of
 the city was \$161,860.00; it cost
 \$4675.00 to run during the year, or an
 expenditure of approximately \$1 for
 every \$35 valuation.
 In 1904, and 1905, Mr. Taylor was
 mayor and Mr. Barrett was on the
 council and in 1904 the assessed val-
 uation was \$185,143.00 and the run-
 ning expenses were over \$11,000.00 or
 an expenditure of \$1 for every \$17 of
 valuation. In 1905, the assessed val-
 uation was \$189,151.00; expenditures
 were over \$17,500.00, or an expendi-
 ture of \$1 for every \$11.00 in val-
 uation.

Under the present administration,
 it has cost the city \$8600.00 to run;
 the assessed valuation is \$603,338.00;
 or \$1 in every \$70.
 In 1901 and 1905, there were exten-
 sive improvements made in the city;
 the water system at Gallagher Springs
 was completed in 1905. It cost the
 present administration something like
 \$3000.00 to maintain this water sys-
 tem, besides the interest on the water
 bonds. There have been some perma-
 nent improvements made in the
 city under the present administration.
 But the people in asking questions as
 to the financial condition of the city,
 seldom ask what improvements have
 you built, but how much indebtedness
 have you created?
 As early as 1909 I find that the city
 then estimated that it cost \$4300.00
 approximately, for the upkeep of the
 water system and payment of the in-
 terest on the water bonds, as shown
 by the following report:
 Athens, Oregon, Nov. 20, 1909.
 To the Mayor and council, Athens,
 Ore.
 Gentlemen: The Athena Water
 Commission submits the following
 estimate of expenses for 1910, for
 which we respectfully ask that your
 honorable body cause tax to be levied
 to meet same, viz:
 Interest on water bonds, \$1523.50
 Sinking fund, 500.00
 Repairs to pipe line, new cou-
 plings and other necessary re-
 pairs (estimated) 500.00
 \$2,523.50

We urge that you levy the limit of
 5 mill tax. This will bring in about
 \$2,300.00 on the assessed valuation of
 \$479,350.00, after allowing for re-
 turns, the receipts from water rents
 will be taken up with expense of op-
 eration and installing new electric
 pumping plant. Very truly,
 Athena Water Commission,
 by C. A. Barrett, Chairman.

At the time the report was made,
 water rents amounted to \$1800 per
 year.
 In 1910 it was necessary to begin
 repairing the pipe line, and it has
 been a constant source of expense ever
 since.
 In 1905 and 1906, the Gallagher
 Springs furnished water for the city.
 But in 1907 it was necessary to re-
 sort to pumping again. And when they
 started to pumping, they had an en-
 gineer and a marshall.
 In June 1911, the two men were put
 on as marshals and attended to the
 water, and it has been found to be
 necessary to retain two men ever since,
 besides hiring extra help to repair the
 pipe line. With no saloons now, it is
 likely that one man can attend to the
 water and no marshall will be needed.

In the year 1911, the outstanding
 warrants of the city were so many,
 that a number of business houses with-
 drew the council that they did not
 want any more warrants. Complaint
 came from the bank, Tom-a-lum Lum-
 ba company, the P.-S. Milling com-
 pany, C. A. Barrett Co., and perhaps
 others. On December 4, 1911, the
 finance committee reported outstand-
 ing warrants of \$10,054.61. The re-
 port of February 7, 1917, shows cash
 on hand, \$744.59; sinking fund
 \$1267.27; outstanding warrants
 \$4650.00. Of the sinking fund \$907.13
 has been created by the present ad-
 ministration.

The years from 1905 to 1911 are
 constantly cited as the years of low
 taxes. Low taxes of course, due to the
 fact that we were not only not pay-
 ing past indebtedness, but were also
 going behind on running expenses
 for those years.
 Beginning with 1912 we have been
 reducing the city debt, paying current
 expenses and creating a sinking fund.
 Taxes are high, but we are paying for
 the credit, but the city got in years
 gone by.
 All the teams that worked on the
 streets last year were donations. Some
 few of the men who were hired were

paid by the city. The teams of Oliv-
 er Dickenson, Harvey McAlexander,
 Chas. Downing and Watts Brothers
 were donated.
 Sprinkling Main street in past years
 has been done by paying therefor with
 city funds, at the rate of \$100.00 per
 month. The P.-S. Milling company,
 one of the heaviest taxpayers in town
 have received no benefit from this
 sprinkling, but have never objected to
 it. Last year, when the streets lead-
 ing to the mill were ciled, was the
 first time this company has received
 any of the benefits from street sprin-
 kling.

The city well was established at the
 mill years ago and a contract entered
 into with the mill to do the pumping
 for the city, at \$1000 per year. At
 that time it was estimated that it
 would take approximately 40 horse
 power to do the pumping. The mill
 contracted with the Pacific Power and
 light company for the power to do the
 pumping. The pumping system in-
 stalled at the mill requires much more
 horse power to run than had been con-
 tracted for, and has constantly pulled
 the mill on what is termed an "over-
 load." When they go onto an "over-
 load" they have to pay a penalty. The
 pumping system has been an expense
 to the mill, so when the city's con-
 tract was out, they refused to pump
 longer unless the city paid for the
 cost of the necessary power. In the
 past year or two, the mill has per-
 mitted the city to pump free of charge,
 when the mill was not running.

In January 1916, the electric motor
 burned out and we pumped 19 days
 with the steam pump. It cost \$57 for
 an engineer and \$143.15 for fuel and
 cartage and then we paid \$105.20 for
 electric power to pump, because we
 pulled the mill on the "overload" all
 the time.
 I find that the records of the city
 disclose that as far back as there is
 any record, attorneys have been hired
 and paid by the city. There is noth-
 ing wrong in that is there? I find
 that Paterson & Wilson were always
 paid \$5 for drafting ordinances. The
 water commission, in 1908, paid some-
 thing over \$125.00 for advice in some
 water rights. An attorney's time and
 advice are his commodities in trade,
 just the same as the merchant's goods



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 —no useless try-ons—no intermin-
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 have recently declared that
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 For the majority have been
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 with the experts.
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 lected California petroleum—
 asphalt-base—under the un-
 equalled refining facilities of
 the Standard Oil Company.
 Next time you empty the
 crank case, refill with Zer-
 olene.
 Standard Oil
 Company
 (California)
 Athens
ZEROLENE
 the Standard Oil for Motor Cars

on the shelf. If you want to buy, it
 is generally considered necessary to
 pay. I have been paid two fees by the
 city since I have been here; one is
 the J. E. Ireland damage case of \$200.
 Attorney Johnson of Pendleton, was
 paid \$300 for his services in the same
 case. In the case of Morrison vs. the
 City of Athens, when in Mrs. Mor-
 rison has recently filed a claim against
 the city for \$7500, I received \$100.
 In each of these instances, I have
 done what is termed, "out rate" busi-
 ness. Has any merchant in town
 done this for the city? I have never
 charged the city for advice or for
 drafting an ordinance.

The following will show approxi-
 mately the amount of money received
 by the city during the given years and
 the rate of tax, ending in 1911, with
 an outstanding indebtedness of over
 \$10,000.00 in warrants, besides the
 bonded indebtedness: In 1905, tax 6
 mills; \$1134.96; from saloons,
 \$1200 (?); water rents, \$1500.1
 In 1906 tax 6 mills, \$1514.17; from
 saloons, \$1200; water rents, \$1500.
 In 1907, tax 6 mills; \$3715.38;
 from saloons, \$1200; water rents \$1800.
 In 1908, tax 9 mills, \$510.63;
 from saloons \$600; (saloons went out
 of business in July) water rents,
 \$1000.
 In 1909, tax 9 mills \$4314.15; water
 rents, \$1800.
 In 1910, tax 9 mills, \$4390; water
 rents, \$1800.

The 1910 tax levy we got in April,
 1911, and on the 4th of December,
 1911, the results were as given above.
 From the year 1903 down to the year
 1911, I have been unable to find any
 report of the outstanding warrants, so
 1911 is the earliest date at which I
 can give the financial standing of the
 city.

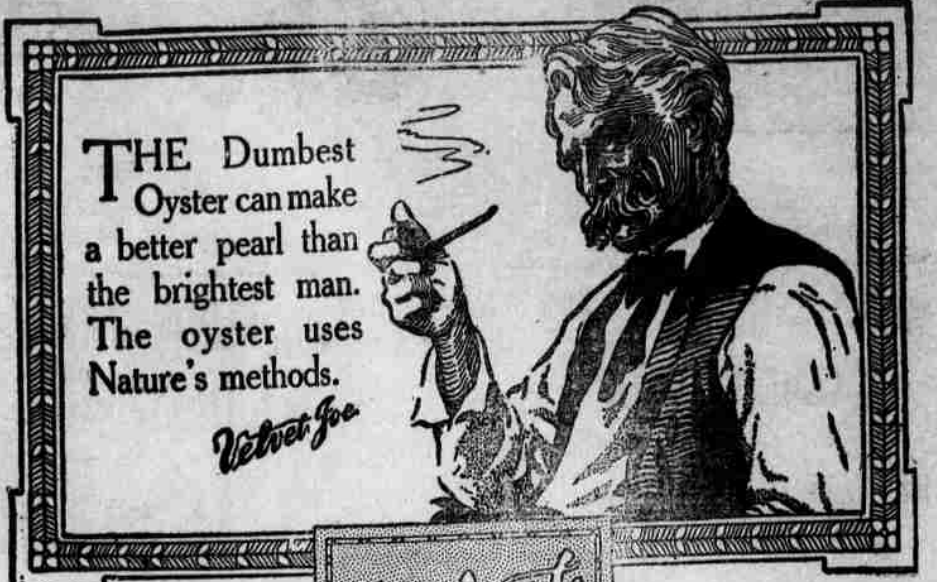
The following will show balance of
 cash at the end of each year, but does
 not show the amount of warrants in-
 curred each year:
 In 1905, \$935.40; in 1906, \$1065.25;
 in 1907, \$394.52; in 1908, \$92.09;
 in 1909, —; in 1910, \$855.60; in 1911,
 \$724.17.

It seems that the tax levy of the city
 down to the year 1911, was inadequate
 for the city's purposes. The bonded
 indebtedness and the debt on out-
 standing warrants, were created by
 the city prior to 1911. Taxes were
 lower then than now, but the city
 was falling to keep up on its current
 expenses. Since 1911, it has been
 necessary to keep up running expen-
 ses and pay off back indebtedness at
 the same time. This is what accounts
 for the difference in the taxes in those
 years and the present time. The debt
 has been created and it must be paid.
 The present administration is not the
 creator of the debt. It deplores the
 present high taxes but it recognizes
 the fact that the debt must be paid.
 Homer I. Watts, Mayor.

For Sale.
 One brown mare mule, no brand vis-
 ible, buckskin nose, star in forehead,
 3 years old, weight 850 pounds; also
 one 3 year old brindle cow, brand on
 side resembling figure 1 with half cir-
 cle above, ear marks resembling crop
 off each ear, will be sold at public
 auction to the highest bidder at the
 Barrett place, one mile north of Ath-
 ens, Oregon on Saturday, March 4,
 1916, at 2 o'clock, p. m. to pay costs
 of advertising and feeding. H. A.
 Barrett, Athens, Oregon, Feb 11/16.

BANNER SALVE

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THE Dumbest
 Oyster can make
 a better pearl than
 the brightest man.
 The oyster uses
 Nature's methods.
Velvet Joe

WHEN I'm maturin' tobacco
 for VELVET, I take a page
 from old Mother Nature's Book.
 Nature says smokin' tobacco don't arrive at
 its full, hearty maturity until after two years'
 maturin'.
 Some folks may say: "Why wait on Nature?
 We can do it quicker."
 I'm strong for Nature's way—the VELVET
 way—two years' mellowing in big, wooden
 hogsheads—"ageing in the wood."



What do you say?
 Well, fill a pipe with VELVET, an'
 draw in the cool, mild smoke that's so
 fragrant an' rich that—but what's the
 use of trying to describe a taste? Take
 my word for VELVET long enough
 to try a pipeful, and you won't need
 to take anybody's
 word after that. *Velvet Joe*
 5c Metal-lined Bags *Lozells Myers Tobacco Co.*
 10c Tins
 One Pound Glass Humidors *Copyright 1916*

THE GARAGE

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 are goods, your car will be ready

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