

The Athena Press

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F. B. BOYD, Owner and Publisher

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Athena, Oregon, April 15.....1927

A SPECTACLE

That in many Oregon counties large interests are assessed at only 10 or 12 per cent of their book value is declared, as revealed in the records of the state tax commission at Salem.

And that other properties of far less earning capacity are assessed at 40 to 60 per cent of their book value is also declared by a Salem news story, as revealed in the records of the commission.

A start was made to equalize these assessments. A law was passed for the purpose by the late legislature, with great gusto. It was recommended by a legislative tax investigating committee after two years of study. The "blue blank" was issued to get authoritative information from taxpayers on which to make the equalization. It is all recent and illuminating history.

Back of the widespread revolt against the "blue blank" was its prying into business secrets, and that it should be opposed is not surprising. But the status remains as one of the weaknesses of the property tax system, now almost universally criticized by tax experts as a failure. The new law is as good as repealed. The "blue blank" is as dead as an autumn leaf. In the main, those assessed only 10 to 12 per cent on their book values are to go on paying on only 10 to 12 per cent, while those assessed at 40 to 60 per cent of their book values, with far less earning power, are to go on paying taxes on 40 to 60 per cent.

This unequal taxation is a public record. It is notorious and undenied. It is an established and acknowledged fact. And the legislature tried to remedy it, but has failed. The estimate is that something like \$400,000,000 is thus kept off the property tax rolls and escapes taxation.

It is one more indictment of the property tax system. It is one more powerful argument for the income tax. Under the income law, all with taxable income pay. They pay according to their ability to pay. One is not taxed on only 10 per cent and another on 60 per cent.

These inequalities cannot go on. A government can't endure half taxed, half free. The sooner adjustments are made, the better for the state.—Oregon Journal.

It is a sad and lamentable fact that powerful interests are advocating the construction of a tramway to the crest of Mount Hood, Oregon's premier and incomparable natural scenic wonder. And there are certain civic organizations at Portland and elsewhere which are falling for this commercialized scheme to scarify the natural grandeur of old and mighty Hood with an unsightly mechanical device. When nature's parks, one by one throughout the great Northwest are being sacrificed to commercial greed through deforestation, and the construction of big hotels, garages, tennis courts, golf links and other means of denuding nature's scenic effects, it is to be hoped that a general protest from the people of the whole state will save Mount Hood from being defaced.

"Big Bill" Thompson is again mayor of Chicago and the wickedest city in the world for four years more, is supposed to be safe from "foreign influence." If Thompson means the foreigners comprising the gangster groups in his town, he has something to fight against, but so far King George of England seems to be the invisible local target that Bill has been aiming at.

There's one unregrettable circumstance connected with the removal of Ed Averill from the office of state game warden, by the newly appointed republican commissioners. He can come back to old Umatilla county, from whence he went to become the best warden the state ever had.

The eggopolis of the world—Petaluma, California—is assailing over the first snowfall in the memory of its oldest inhabitant, and according to latest reports from there, the cackle factories were still cackling.

The duration of the cross examination of Sapario by Senator Jim Reed, inspires one in the belief that both are in their verbal element.

One by one the daisies fall. The new game commission has ousted the chief deputy game warden and the Crook county deputy.

Portland's detectives believe they have a clue, through finding the heel of a ladies' shoe, that a woman was connected with the robbery of the

Old's, Wortman & King store. Probably; there's generally a woman in the case!

With seventy-seven deaths from Eastern storms staring you in the face, aren't you glad that you live in Oregon?

The skies smiled, Portland smiled and everyone smiled when the Beavers took the opening game from Hollywood, Tuesday; score 6 to 5.

Weston Pioneers' Reunion June 10 and 11. Remember the dates and keep them wholly in reserve for the big picnic.

A few more weeks and the kids will vacate the school building for their summer vacation.

Well, the Mackmen dropped their first one, but the week is yet young.

This is the day, but are they biting?

Card of Thanks

We desire to express our deepest thanks for the sympathy and assistance given us during our bereavement in the loss of our husband and father.

MRS. H. S. KNIGHT
AND FAMILY.

NOTICE OF REFEREE'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY UPON PARTITION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, as referee, under and pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County, duly made and entered on the 7th day of April, 1927, in a partition suit then pending therein between William J. Kirk as plaintiff and Mary C. Somerville, Cora Kirk and Clara Josephine Kirk, defendants, will sell at public auction for cash in hand, all the right, title, interest and estate of said plaintiff and of each of said defendants, of, in, and to the following described real estate, situate in Umatilla County, State of Oregon, to-wit:

The South half of the Southeast quarter of Section 28, and the North half of the Northeast quarter of Section 33, all in Township 3 North of Range 35 E. W. M.

together with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, said sale to be subject to the confirmation of this court.

That said sale will be made at the west door of the County Court House in Pendleton, Umatilla County, State of Oregon, on the 16th day of May, 1927, at the hour of 2 o'clock in the afternoon of said day. That the interest of said Clara Josephine Kirk in said real property is encumbered by a mortgage made on October 30th, 1924, by Roy A. Kirk, a single man, A. O. Kirk and Josephine Kirk, husband and wife, to Moses Taylor for the sum of \$6000 on said lands and other lands, which said mortgage was recorded on the first day of November, 1924 in Book 84 at page 150 of the mortgage records of Umatilla County, State of Oregon. That said mortgage will be paid to the extent of \$2500 as agreement between said Moses Taylor and said Clara Josephine Kirk, by the undersigned as referee, from the proceeds of the sale of the interest of the said Clara Josephine Kirk in said real property, and a release of said lands from the lien of said mortgages will be procured by the undersigned, as referee, and filed with the County Clerk of Umatilla County, State of Oregon.

That said lands will be sold free and clear of all other encumbrances except that the purchaser will be required to pay the reasonable value of the summer fallow and cultivation done on said premises, up to the date of sale for 1927.

W. H. MORRISON.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County. In the Matter of the Estate of John E. Froome, Deceased. Notice is hereby given to all persons whom it may concern: That Laura Froome and J. W. Maloney have been appointed administrators of the estate of John E. Froome, deceased; that said John E. Froome was also known as John E. Froom. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present them to said Laura Froome at Athena, Oregon, or to J. W. Maloney at Pendleton, Oregon, or to them at the law office of Will M. Peterson, attorney at law, Pendleton, Oregon, duly verified in the manner required by law, within six months of the date of the first publication of this notice which is the 8th day of April, 1927.

Laura Froome,
J. W. Maloney,
Administrators.

Will M. Peterson, George R. Lewis
Attorneys for Administrators.
AS36.

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County. In the Matter of the Estate of George W. Gross, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have filed their final account and report in the above entitled matter and that the above entitled Court has fixed Saturday, the 30th day of April, 1927, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock A. M. of said day as the time, and the County Court room of the County Court house at Pendleton, Umatilla County, Oregon, as the place, for the hearing of said final account and report. Objections to said final account and report should be filed on or before that date. Dated at Athena, Umatilla County, Oregon, this 1st day of April, 1927.

SARAH J. GROSS,
JAMES F. GROSS,
Executors of the Last Will and Testament of George W. Gross, Deceased.

Watts & Prestbye Athena, Oregon,
Attorneys for Estate. A1A23.

HOW FAKE AUCTIONS GET YOUR MONEY

By W. R. MOREHOUSE
Public Relations Commission, American Bankers Association

(This is one of a series of articles exposing the wiles of sharpers who are after your money.)

NEARLY everyone is ready "to take a fling" at getting something for nothing or at least for less than it is worth. Because of this many are duped into paying more than regular market prices for things they buy. This class of people is especially susceptible to the appeal of anything resembling an auction. Fake auctions with the cards stacked against the buyer are very common. They rank high among the fraudulent schemes of the country.

The "here today and gone tomorrow" auction faker rents a fine looking house in some high-class section of the city in which he plans to operate. He furnishes this house with the cheapest imitations of high-class furnishings, with here and there a fine piece which is to serve for bait. Certain pieces are alleged antiques with a thread of glorious history behind them. Of others it is claimed that they have been handed down for generations, originating with some person noted in history or with some famous Southern family. Of other pieces it is maintained that they are made of rare and precious woods imported from far across the sea. The overstuffed furniture, it is claimed, is all high grade of standard manufacture.

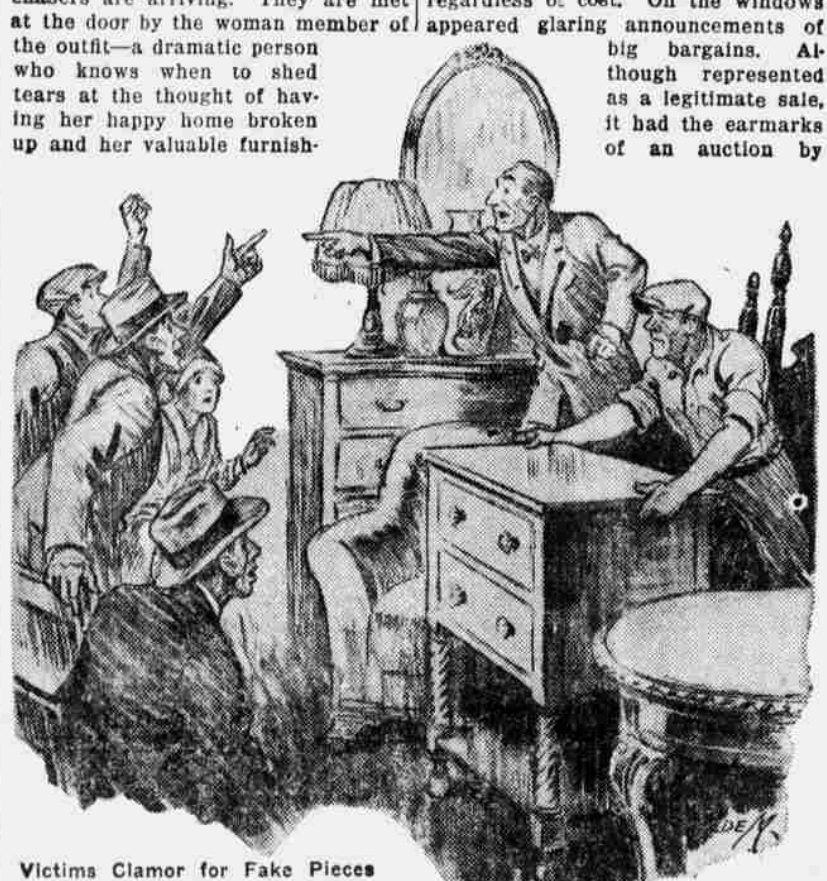
Regardless of its superiority and antiquity, the furniture must be sold at once, for the owner is compelled to take an extended trip, the family physician having ordered travel and a change of climate as a means of saving his life. Nothing is to be spared and the deep slashings of the auctioneer's axe must go on with no price too low. Individual pre-auction sales, of course, will be arranged for persons who are unable to attend the auction.

The day of the sale is here. Purchasers are arriving. They are met at the door by the woman member of the outfit—a dramatic person who knows when to shed tears at the thought of having her happy home broken up and her valuable furnishings

they find hanging in the front window a sign, "For Rent." The birds have flown, without leaving any address. Fake auctions are not exclusive to residences, but are sometimes staged in stores. We have reports of a certain furniture firm that failed, having on hand stock invoiced at \$42,000. An auction sale was announced. As usual the stock must be closed out to satisfy creditors within a few days, regardless of cost. On the windows appeared glaring announcements of big bargains. Although represented as a legitimate sale, it had the earmarks of an auction by



W. R. MOREHOUSE



Victims Clamor for Fake Pieces

ings torn from her. She tells her sad story—how she must leave her home and go to distant lands with her husband whose health is broken and life in danger. But she is resigned to her "awful calamity" and will sell all her lovely furniture even at a great sacrifice.

As she directs attention to certain pieces of furniture her voice quavers. She almost sobs aloud as she names the price she is forced to accept. "Less than half the original cost, but price is no object. We must take the train tomorrow," and she wipes a tear from her eye. Fully convinced the sale is genuine, and sympathizing with the unfortunate woman, buyers clamor for the furniture.

But no sooner are the articles transferred from their setting in the slightly darkened rooms of their original owner and displayed in the sunlight of the purchaser's home, than the truth about the sale begins to dawn in the mind of each new owner. Close examination reveals that evidently this wonderful collection of furniture was but odds and ends and unsalable pieces picked up from second-hand stores by these fly-by-night fakers. Some proves to be the rankest of imitations of the cheapest grade, and the overstuffed is so poorly constructed that it squeaks and weaves under the lightest weight.

The Birds Have Flown

When those who have been cheated rush back to the house the next day, intent on making it "hot for the faker,"

(A future article will present means to foil crooked promoters' wiles and tell how to separate good from bad investments.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County. In the Matter of the Estate of William P. Willaby, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administrator of the estate of William P. Willaby, deceased, by an order of the above entitled court.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me at Athena, Oregon, or to my attorneys, Watts & Prestbye, at their office in Athena, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. All claims must be verified as by law required. Dated at Athena, Oregon, this 1st day of April, 1927.

HESTER WILLABY
Administratrix.

Watts & Prestbye Athena, Oregon,
Attorneys for Estate. A1A23.

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT AND REPORT

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Umatilla County. In the Matter of the Estate of Augusta Betz, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed his final account and report in the above entitled matter and that the above entitled Court has fixed Saturday the 23rd day of April, 1927, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day as the time, and the County Court room of the County Court house at Pendleton, Umatilla County, Oregon, as the place for hearing said account and report. Objections to said final account and report should be filed on or before that date. Dated at Athena Oregon, this 22nd day of March, 1927.

B. E. RICHARDS,
Ancillary Administrator for Oregon.
M2B22.

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