

AS TO THOSE WAGON ROADS.

An exchange speaks of the appropriations made by the late legislature for the building of wagon roads in various parts of the state as judicious ones, meaning that the roads thus to be built will be of much benefit to that portion of the state where the roads are severally located. This is not disputed, but that is no justification for taking large sums of money from the public treasury, raised by taxing all the taxpayers of the state, and building roads in limited localities where but very few people are beneficiaries of this expenditure. If this were a sufficient reason, then Linn county with much greater reason might have asked for appropriations for the building of half a dozen bridges which her people are clamoring for but which she does not feel able to build. A bridge at Albany built by money appropriated from the state treasury would have benefited and accommodated a larger number of people than many of the roads whose building and construction were provided for by the late legislature. But it was never contemplated by the framers of our constitution that the legislature should pass special laws on the subject of laying out and constructing wagon roads, that is, that the legislature should have one way for laying out and building wagon roads in Linn county and another and different way for doing the same thing in Benton or Coos county. In fact such legislation is expressly prohibited, notwithstanding a pretended decision of the Supreme Court on that subject. But the most outrageous feature of the appropriations is in the unfairness of them. The counties that get the roads with few exceptions do not pay half as much taxes to the state as they get to build their roads, while those that get no roads pay the taxes to meet these appropriations. Let us look into this. The following table shows the state tax of each county for the general expense fund for 1888:

Counties.	Tax.
Baker.....	\$ 6,032.84
Benton.....	12,999.57
Clackamas.....	8,638.79
Clatsop.....	9,281.29
Columbia.....	2,588.35
Coos.....	5,107.74
Crook.....	5,384.11
Curry.....	1,812.95
Douglas.....	10,317.54
Gilliam.....	4,464.73
Grant.....	7,889.80
Jackson.....	11,155.59
Josephine.....	3,014.38
Klamath.....	3,633.92
Lake.....	5,767.18
Lane.....	15,493.93
Linn.....	20,183.34
Malheur.....	3,687.20
Marion.....	10,337.18
Morrow.....	4,122.14
Multnomah.....	82,341.59
Polk.....	10,468.71
Tillamook.....	1,212.92
Umatilla.....	17,314.90
Union.....	9,534.14
Wasco.....	12,012.83
Wallowa.....	2,299.46
Washington.....	9,825.72
Yamhill.....	14,971.34

Baker county gets \$10,000 for a road and pays \$6,000 taxes into the state treasury, thus receiving \$4,000 more than all her state tax amounts to. Curry county gets \$14,000 for a road and pays only \$1,812 taxes. Morrow, Umatilla and Grant counties get \$22,000 and pay \$29,000 taxes. Union and Wallowa get \$8,000 and pay \$11,000 taxes. Lake gets \$15,000 and pays \$5,700 state taxes. Washington, Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook get \$20,000 and pay \$22,000 state taxes. Thus it will be seen that those counties that pay nearly all the state taxes get none of these appropriations, while the people of these counties are every day subjected to great expense and inconvenience on account of lack of roads and bridges, while most of the counties that get these "liberal" appropriations pay comparatively but little taxes. But we are told that we must not be niggardly, that we must have "liberal appropriations" for public improvements, and this advice comes from those who are the beneficiaries of this liberal policy. Well, it requires neither patriotism nor the spirit of fair dealing for one to exhibit great liberality in disbursing other people's money. Check and selfishness are motives sufficient for that purpose. We are told that Linn county might have received a portion of the "wag" had her members not urged opposition to the prevailing system of extravagance that seemed to hold sway among a large majority of the members of the legislature. Manhood is too great a sacrifice to make for a few paltry thousands. A legislature, a majority of whose members are controlled by pure selfishness to the utter disregard of the public weal, will play the game of "I'll tickle you if you'll tickle me," and then wonder that an outraged public "kick" against the conduct of such open public enemies. No wonder taxpayers all over the state are so outspokenly indignant at this betrayal of public interests. Yes, we propose to "kick," and when these gentry offer themselves again for public place they will find that the people of the state, without regard to party, will do a large amount of vigorous "kicking" as well.

Congress appropriates money to pay for furnishing heating and lighting the White house, and the wages of servants; but the president must pay for the provisions and table expenditures of all kinds out of his annual salary of \$50,000.

The East Portland *Vindicator* in the course of a long article on the superior fitness of young men over old ones for legislative work, pays the following handsome and deserved tribute to two young members of the late legislature: "And right here an illustration may be given with which all are familiar: There were two young members in the lower house of the late legislature: Hon. Jeff. Myers, of Linn County, and Hon. Robt. A. Miller, of Jackson. The former is in his twenty-sixth year and the latter a few years older. The young men returned to their homes taking with them the confidence and respect of all with whom they came in contact. They displayed an adaptability to the duties of the positions they were called to fill, by the manly course they pursued, and the manifest purity of the motives by which they were governed.

The *Statesman* tries to get in a good word for Salem with regard to the matter of locating the state reform school by referring to Sec. 3, Art. 14, of the constitution, which provides that all the public institutions of the state shall be located at the seat of government. The *Statesman* can not be ignorant of the fact that the legislature has long since given a different construction to that provision from that given by that paper. The State University is located at Eugene, the Agricultural College at Corvallis and State Normal schools all over the state, and there is not a single reason why the state reform school should not be located at Albany.

It is generally conceded by physicians that about one-half of the population of the United States are suffering from indigestion and dyspepsia. Harried eating and improper mastication and insalivation of food are the principal causes. Dr. Henley's Dandelion Tonic strengthens and invigorates the digestive organs, and enables one to enjoy a hearty meal without any unpleasant after effects. Sold by Foehey & Mason.

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