

# THE LANE COUNTY NEWS

Continuing the Springfield News and Lane County Star, Which Were Consolidated February 10, 1914.

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SPRINGFIELD, LANE COUNTY, OREGON, MONDAY MARCH 20, 1916.

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## Cities That Wait to be Struck by the Lightning of Prosperity Continue on the Waiting List

—ALHAMBRA, CAL., ADVOCATE

### COUNTY HAS THE RIGHT TO LEVY CITY ROAD TAX

The right of the county court to specify a certain portion of its general fund for road purposes was upheld by Circuit Judge Skipworth in a decision Friday in the case of L. N. Roney, a taxpayer, who appeared in court in the interest of Eugene, and incidentally Springfield to contest the right of the court to levy road taxes in these cities, which under their charters are separate road districts.

The court holds that while the county court has no right to levy a tax for road purposes against the property of the city, it has, irrespective of the charter, the right to include in its general levy for its general fund, such amount for road purposes as it sees fit. The county court, while it named a certain amount in its published document prior to the making of the levy for road purposes, did not name a certain amount for that purpose in the levy, intending to use the 2.79 mills for road purposes out of the levy for general purposes.

"It is the opinion of the court that the county court in making up its budget and in providing for a general fund had the right to include in such general fund such amount as the county court determined necessary for road purposes," said Judge Skipworth in his opinion.

"It is the opinion of the court that the tax complained of by the plaintiff is legal and that the plaintiff's property and the taxable property of the city of Eugene is liable for its proportionate share of thereof."

Taxpayers of Eugene and Springfield will now be compelled to pay the full amount assessed against them, unless the case is taken to the supreme court and reversed.

J. M. Devers, district attorney, and Helmus W. Thompson were counsel for the county and O. H. Foster and S. P. Ness for the city.

### EXCESSIVE PRICE ASKED FOR CLOVER TREATMENT

County Agriculturist Alcorn reports to the News that there are solicitors at work in Lane county selling a preparation for treating clover seed to increase the yield, their price being \$2 for treatment of enough seed for an acre. Mr. Alcorn states that enough to treat seed for 15 acres can be secured from the agricultural college at a cost of 60 cents.

### INSECTS INJURIOUS TO CLOVER

#### Clover Root-Bore

Clover that has stood for two years has very probably been so badly injured that it will not pay to leave it during another season. Those who have clover that was seeded in the spring of 1914, or earlier, should examine it very carefully to determine whether or not it will produce a paying crop this season. Recent examination of some fields near Eugene that produced excellent crops last year shows that a large percentage of the plants are already entirely dead and that the others are so badly injured that a paying crop cannot be produced this year.

The injury is done by the larvae, or immature stage, of a small dark bronze-colored beetle, about one-eighth of an inch long. During the fall of the year the larvae change to adults which hibernate over the winter in the old larval tunnels in the roots, and emerge in the spring to deposit eggs in the crowns of other clover plants.

The roots of first year plants are too small for the larvae to work on so the injury is done largely during the second summer. There seems to be no way to avoid injury except by ploughing up damaged crops during the fall and winter, so the adult beetles may be exposed to the weather and thus reduced in number.

Those who are to produce clover seed this year should plan to pasture back their clover as late as possible and still permit the seed to mature, or should cut it for hay at about that time and leave the second crop for seed. No early blossoms should be left in the field or in the vicinity, since the clover flower midge and the clover seed chalcids that live over winter will use these flowers for breeding places and thus produce a large number of new insects that mature in time to injure the main seed crop. If the early flowers are kept pastured or cut back, the winter brood of insects will have largely perished before the main seed crop blossoms and thus very little injury will be done to this crop.

J. M. ALCORN,  
Acting County Agriculturist.

### Local Railroad Yards Congested

The local yards of the S. P. company are greatly crowded by the traffic in and through Springfield. With the many log trains, the gravel trains, and the weighing of the loaded cars from the Wendling and Oakridge branches, the tracks are kept full the greater part of the time. This morning the train from Wendling was delayed for five minutes east of the station until freight 245 could be coupled up and moved out onto the W.-P. gravel siding which happened to be empty at the time.

Night before last two engines had to be left on the main line, marked with warning lights, for there was no room on the sidings.

### CAMP CREEK ITEMS

Special to the Lane County News  
A number of the people from here attended the sale at Nyhart's Thursday.

F. W. Brown was in Walterville on business Tuesday.

Mrs. Walter Stephens and Mrs. Charlie Jack were visitors at Upper Camp Creek Wednesday.

Mrs. Masterson was a Springfield visitor Sunday.

J. K. Platts is shearing sheep for Mr. Bream.

### INDUSTRIAL NOTES

Salem, March 13.—Port of Umpqua Commission votes \$200,000 bonds to construct jetty.

Coos County Commissioners plan \$25,000 addition to Court House.

25 out of 30 sawmills located on Columbia and Willamette rivers in operation.

Baker—Gold running \$500 to the ton uncovered in Carroll B. mine.

Portland—Union stock yards to have a new building, to cost \$150,000.

Plans are being drawn for a \$100,000 hotel at Gearheart.

S. P. Co., begins electrification of West side line from Whiteson to Corvallis, cost \$800,000.

Nort Bend—Oregon Wood Products Co., grows from 6 men to 23 men payroll in a month.

Heppner is to have a new creamery.

Springfield—Ralston Steel Car Co., of Ohio lets contract to Booth-Kelly mill for 9,000,000 feet of lumber with which to build 2,000 freight cars for S. P. company.

Bend—Lang & Co., of Portland buys site for wholesale grocery warehouse.

Medford now expects to get a beet sugar factory.

Portland estimated population at present 281,000.

### SPROULE EXPLAINS O. & C. LAND GRANT CASE

President William Sproule, of the Southern Pacific railroad, in a letter to the San Francisco Chronicle sets forth the company's view on the Oregon-California land grant. The letter follows:

"Will you allow me to express regret that in the Chronicle, whose editorials are usually so well informed, your editorial of this date on the Oregon railroad lands should be an exception to the rule, as it assumes that this company is making an illegal effort to retain the lands under the grant. The facts of the case will dispel this assumption, and as I know you wish the facts, will you allow me the privilege of stating the main points briefly?"

"The supreme court of the United States held that the company is the owner of the lands under the grant, with absolute title, subject only to the restriction that when it chooses to sell these lands it shall sell them only to actual settlers in parcels not exceeding 160 acres and at a price not exceeding \$2.50 an acre. It reversed Judge Wolverson, who held that because the company had sold these lands, with the timber on them, in larger parcels than 160 acres, and to persons not actual settlers, and for prices exceeding \$2.50 an acre, the company had forfeited its title to all lands unsold.

Shortly after the company received this grant of lands it offered them for sale in accordance with the restrictions, and in early times sold substantially all of the lands that were suitable to settlement at prices not exceeding \$2.50 an acre; but it could not, under the restriction to sell only to actual settlers, sell the lands which were not suitable for actual settlement, as some of them were timber lands.

"Thereafter, because the provisions of the grant did not and could not apply to the character of the lands remaining unsold, the company did make sales of these timber lands in larger tracts than 160 acres to persons other than actual settlers and for prices exceeding \$2.50 an acre. It was these sales which were made the foundation of the claim on the part of the government that the company had forfeited its title to all the lands unsold, which claim was rejected by the United States supreme court.

"The position of the company is, that being the owner of these timber lands and under no obligation to sell them, and in fact it being impossible to sell them under the restrictions of the grant, it has the right of any other owner to dispose of the timber on these lands just as it would dispose of any other crop on the land; at the same time admitting that when it comes to sell the lands themselves it must do so under the terms of the grant. The cutting of the timber from these lands is, in fact,

a step toward making them fit for settlement, so that they may be disposed of under the terms of the grant.

"Here, then, is the exact question between the company and the government. The government, on one hand, claims that the company shall not be allowed to realize more than \$2.50 an acre for any of these lands, even though they may be worth many times that amount, because of the timber thereon. The company, on the other hand, says that its title to these lands has been established by the supreme court of the United States, that the grant puts it under no obligation to sell these lands at any time; that it may exercise the ordinary right of an owner to sell the timber on these lands, and that it will have fully complied with the terms of the grant if, after the timber is removed, it sells these lands only to actual settlers in 160-acre parcels for prices not exceeding \$2.50 an acre.

"The facts show that the position of the government, if carried out, will force upon the company a large financial loss; in other words, while this grant was one to aid the construction of the railroad, it would turn out to be, if the position of the government is correct, the means only of producing a deficit for the grantee, and this appears from the following facts:

Expense to the company of administering this grant	\$1,371,995.20
It has paid taxes on these lands aggregating	\$2,757,647.84
Making total expense and taxes	\$4,129,643.04
The company's total cash receipts from all sources under this grant, including the sales of lands, amount to	\$5,345,468.93
This leaves the company a net revenue from past transactions of	1,215,825.89
The lands of this grant heretofore sold aggregate (acres)	804,637.75
Which have yielded the company therefore an average net revenue for the lands sold per acre of	\$1.51

"And, further, this grant required the company to carry free for the United States government its mails, troops, munitions of war and public stores over this railroad without limit as to time. The value of this free transportation at regular rates which has been furnished the government equals \$2,084,467.10, which amount exceeds the receipts of the company under the grant by \$868,641.21. It embraces the service between Portland and Roseville Junction, 664 miles.

"From the experience of the past we may be certain that the company will be called upon to furnish the government free transportation of the value of \$75,000 per annum, and this is a perpetual obligation. Now if we could sell every acre of the land at present unsold, viz., 2,400,000 acres, at the price of \$2.50 per acre, this would yield \$6,000,000, which would be used up in 80 years by the free transportation which we are bound to furnish the government, leaving the company thereafter—for all time—to furnish transportation to the government without compensation.

"But there is a considerable quantity of this land, at least 400,000 acres, which cannot be sold at any price, hence the amount that could be realized by

sales would be something like \$3,000,000 or \$4,000,000 at the utmost, from which expenses of administration and taxes must be deducted.

"The company, therefore, insists upon its legal rights as the owner of these lands to dispose of the timber thereon, and any fair adjustment of this matter with the government, considering all the facts, would not deny to the company this right, a right which in a similar transaction between private individuals would not be questioned for a moment."

### HOSPITAL NOTES

Mrs. Bean of Halsey will be able to leave the Springfield hospital tomorrow for her home.

Mrs. E. C. Stevens of Walterville was taken to her home today after an operation at the hospital.

Mrs. Barber of Wendling who has been in the Springfield hospital for some time was taken to her home last night.

Mrs. J. W. Freeman of Mabel who has been at the hospital since an injury some time ago will be able to be taken to her home Tuesday.

Mrs. O. B. Smith after a successful operation at the Springfield hospital will be taken home Wednesday.

Mrs. R. W. Baker, manager of the Springfield hospital leaves tonight for Portland on business.

Much interest was taken Saturday night in the closing of the graphonola contest at the Beaver-Herdon store. Those winning prizes were:

- (115) Miss Eunice Parker, 14-677,195, Graphonola.
- (104) Miss May Hills, Fall Creek, 10,334,195, 15 Jewel Wrist Watch.
- (107) Neil Nixon, 6,634,005 7 Jewel Wrist Watch.
- (4) Gladys Lee, 4,372,375, Silver Toilet Set.

### Lightning Plays in the Nearby Hills

A thunder storm of considerable intensity passed to the south and eastward of Springfield Sunday afternoon, making a brilliant display for half an hour or more. One bolt struck not far east of town, and a transformer on the line on East Main street was burned out. The power was cut off for three-quarters of an hour in the afternoon, by the blowing of a lightning arrester at the power plant, and the juice was cut off for a few minutes again at 7 in the evening while the transformer was being cut out.

The church at Leaburg is reported to have been shifted on its foundation, and much damage is said to have been done in the vicinity of Portland and Oregon City.

### INDUSTRIAL NOTES

Brickettes may be manufactured from waste at Florence mills.

Carload of peppermint roots shipped from surrounding country to Albany last week.

U. S. National Bank plans to build \$250,000 structure in Portland.

Cold storage plant for handling deep sea fish proposed for Coos Bay.

Refining plant to handle Silica deposits, discovered near Oregon City, to be built.

Jitneys ask for franchise to run between Oregon City and Portland "when weather is good again."

Plans are being drawn for many Oregon bridges.

Astoria is opening bids for much street improvement work.

Milwaukee council votes to buy out local water company.

A creamery is planned for Stanfield.

### SECOND COUNT IN PIANO CONTEST ON APRIL 4TH

\$5 in Gold to Candidates Making Largest Gains in Votes Since First Count. This Should Make Candidates Hustle.

The time for the second count is fast approaching and with it interest in the result is growing more keen with friendly rivalry among the contestants for first place. The remaining days will witness an active campaign for more votes. New subscriptions are coming in and the merchants' coupons.

There will be another prize in gold at the next count April 4: Five dollars goes to the contestant who makes the greatest gain in votes between now and the next count April 4. This gives all the contestants a chance to win one of the special prizes no matter where they stand now.

If you are not a subscriber for the News now is the time to start, or if you owe, now is the time to pay. You have no doubt a friend among the contestants who would be delighted to have your votes.

Five dollars in gold is worth considerable effort and the energy put forth to secure this lands the winner that much nearer success at the finish when the piano will be awarded. There is nothing worth while obtained in this world without energetic and thoughtful effort and to become the victor in this contest and receive the reward that goes with it is worth while. If your efforts heretofore have been spasmodic, from now on make it continuous and determined. Enlist the men as well as the women folks in your behalf. They will enjoy the News and will be glad to help you along to victory. Speak to your friends and neighbors and see how quickly they will respond. One of the beauties of this contest is that few are disappointed—there are many prizes. It is a time when you ask your friends to show their friendship in a substantial way by assisting you.

The count on April 4 will be decisive as to the \$5 but its importance must not be overlooked for your standing on that occasion is a sort of barometer to your following of friends and, if you win it will be the result of the efforts of yourself and friends.

The News has the laudable ambition to improve right along and to go regularly to every home in Springfield and vicinity, to stand for and promote those things which will be for the good of the community and to yield as great an influence as possible

(Continued on Page 4.)

### Springfield Bakery Changes Hands

A deal was completed late this afternoon whereby Herman Shrader of Oregon City purchased the Springfield Bakery from S. Young. The new owner will take possession tomorrow morning.

Mr. Shrader has had many years experience in the bakery business, and is highly recommended.

The Youngs have conducted the bakery here for the past seven years, and have made a host of friends in a business way as well as socially. They will remain in Springfield for a few days, and will then go to Portland.



**GOOD TOOLS MAKE GOOD WORK**

Good workmen get good results from good tools. Good hardware stands up and shows up—good hardware costs a trifle more than the indifferent kind on the day you buy, but by standing up against the wear and tear longer the quality product shows a vast saving on general expenses.

**Beaver-Herdon Hardware Company**