

**The Santiam News**  
**POLITICALLY INDEPENDENT**

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 EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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**THE PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW**

**THE ALBANY HERALD** of last Friday seems to think or infer that Dugger, editor of the **SANTIAM NEWS** had been poaching upon preserves which were, to him, prohibited, when he was at the present county seat on that day, in that he dared to make certain investigations of the county records, and that it was matter of congratulations that the said Dugger left the court house when he left the city.

Of course, Brother Herald, the **NEWS** is somewhat fresh when it attempts to pry into the whys and wherefores of how the county's business is being conducted. But, for all that, the people of the Forks of the Santiam are interested in the county's welfare and have a right to know how the money which they pay in the way of taxes is being expended. Yet one would think if he condescended to read the Herald that that paper deems any attempt on the part of a citizen of the Forks to make investigations of county finances and methods, as a presumptuous act. Possibly this is true. Possibly no citizen of the aforesaid Forks has any rights which a citizen of the present county seat is bound to respect; but as many of us are from Missouri, the Herald will have to show us.

The **NEWS** man has been a taxpayer in Linn county for the past 37 years and by a simple calculation in addition he finds that he has paid nearly \$3000 towards the support of the county and state, consequently, he feels as though he did not trespass in making the inquiries which seem to have troubled the Herald.

The inquiries made disclosed the fact that the tax levy for the support of the county, including roads, and state was 12 mills. This levy raised a fund of over \$250,000. Of this sum, some \$65,000 was paid the state, leaving some \$185,000 for the public schools, roads and other county purposes. Now of this sum over \$62,000 was levied exclusively for road purposes, half of which was divided among the various road districts in accordance with their assessments and the other half was for roads but to be paid to districts as the court might think best. It is this fund and what disposition was being made of it that the **NEWS** man was looking up.

This special general road fund levy was made at the instance of a petition which represented a majority of the tax payers of the county, in addition to the special district levy. The people were willing to doubly tax themselves in order that they might have decent roads over which to travel and it was generally understood that this additional levy of 1 1/2 mills was to be used for road purposes only and not for bridges nor any other purpose.

Now, the main road working season for 1909 is, practically, over and as nearly as we could learn, not more than \$4,000 to \$5,000 of this nearly \$32,000 special general road fund has been expended. It is reasonable to suppose that the people knew what they wanted when they asked the court to make this additional levy. They wanted it for the roads, to be applied in the localities where the other road taxes were insufficient to make the bad roads good and this was to be at the discretion of the court. That is to say, districts which did not need this additional fund were not to receive any of it, but the districts which did need more money were to receive it from this fund. The court has no moral or legal right to divert this money to any other purpose. Now as only about one eighth of this money has been appropriated by the court, it is in order for the court to state what disposition is to be made with the balance of the fund.

In this section of the county there are two or three districts which have some very bad roads. The regular district fund being insufficient to place these bad roads in reasonable passable

condition for all seasons of the year, the supervisors made application for a portion of the special general fund. The court would not appropriate a dollar for their relief and, as a consequence, the people will have to wallow through the mud and mire for another year or two, or until a court can be elected which will obey the desires of the people.

If the people are willing to increase their already heavy burden of taxation in order to have passable roads, certainly no court should be so arrogant as to refuse to appropriate the money for the purposes intended, in this instance, by the petitioners. If such was the purpose of the court, it should have refused to make the levy in the first place. While, it is true, the people desire that economy should be used in the expenditure of their tax moneys, they do not wish the court to mistake parsimony for economy. The people of these two or three districts asked for a portion of this fund, believing that they had a right to it, seeing that they had paid extra taxes for this very purpose. Now the court, having collected this tax, refuses to appropriate it for the purpose intended. Thus, the court instead of being servants of the people, assumes to be their masters. While the court is, probably, composed of men of average ability, it assumes to say to the people that you, the people, do not know what is best for you, but we, the county court of Linn county, do know whether this fund shall be expended on the roads, or for any other purpose which we may think best or not at all.

It is not the purpose of the **NEWS** to assail the county court, for it believes the court, in the main, is serving the people acceptably, if we except the fund under consideration. Undoubtedly the court has the power to say in which districts this fund shall be expended, but it has not the power to refuse to expend it for the purpose intended nor to use it for any other purpose whatsoever.

**THE INCOME TAX**

**BOTH BRANCHES** of congress have passed a joint resolution, submitting an amendment to the Federal constitution to the various state legislatures for their ratification or rejection, authorizing congress to enact an income tax law. If this proposed amendment could be submitted to the people instead of the legislatures, there is not a doubt but what it would be adopted. Unfortunately, however, amendments to the Federal constitution must receive the assent of three fourths of the state legislatures, which, in this instance means the assent of the legislatures of thirty-five states.

One is apt to jump at a conclusion and say that the state legislatures will support the measure almost unanimously. But will they? Should twelve states refuse their assent, the amendment will be lost and the **NEWS** believes that there are this number whose legislatures can be influenced. For instance the six New England states, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware are the states which have always been under the dominance of men who possess large incomes, and these men are apt to exhaust every means to defeat a law which will cause them to shoulder their just proportion of the burden of government. Then there is Ohio and Illinois, states which are well under the influence of the big incomes and their legislatures are very liable to see matters from the incomes' standpoint. Yet if the matter could be submitted to the people of any of these states, the amendment would carry in most of them. But legislatures are different. They have been known to be influenced in the past and they, probably, will be in the future.

We may expect that men who have secured their fortunes through speculation, watering and merging railroad, industrial or mining stocks, will avoid shouldering their just portion of the burden of government. They always have done so and will continue to do so in the future, unless some plan is evolved by which prison gates are open to them unless they make a true return to the assessor, or of their incomes if the income tax amendment is adopted.

A tax on incomes is the most just tax which can be levied; for who is so able to pay a tax as he who has the large income. It is a just tax from any point of view. As the government's expenses mount higher and higher, the additional cash necessary should be collected from those able to pay—those who have nothing to do but clip coupons, collect rents, dividends, etc. and spend them. The income is properly a subject of taxation and if it will cause men who have, hitherto, avoided contributing their just portion of the burden of government, it will have accomplished what, at present, seems an impossibility.

**STUDY**

Hoard's Dairyman has been striving for many years to induce the dairy farmer to become a thoughtful student of his business. It has seen such men prosper greatly because of their study. It has seen the ignorant, unthinking, non-studious farmer, who, did not use his mind, work a life time for a bare living, for the lowest profits, and the

least privileges. Everywhere in all trades and professions have we seen that it is the thoughtful, studious man who succeeds best. Lord Bacon in his essay upon Study says:

"Crafty men contemn studies; simple men admire them; and wise men use them; for they teach not their own use; but that is a wisdom without them and above them, won by observation. Read not to contradict and confute; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider."

A highly successful dairy farmer is up against a great many deep problems. He cannot hope to get hold of all the best ideas concerning these problems by himself alone. He needs the thought, study and observation of other good thinkers. A first class dairy paper is the medium of exchange for these ideas. As Bacon says, if he is a man of close observation, that will enable him to see how to put those ideas, gained by reading and study, into improved practice. The average practice of the average dairy farmer is at rather low grade. He it is, who is content to keep poor, unprofitable cows; to follow worn out, unprofitable methods; to do nothing for the improvement of his mind or add to his stock of knowledge.

We cannot learn better ideas or more profitable methods from such men, because they do not believe in them, do not receive them, do not practice them. It is the average farmer who keeps the average cow for the beggarly return of 3,000 lbs of milk a year. Just in proportion as a man reads and studies does he rise above this low average. Just in proportion does he come up into the light where he can see the relation of things to each other, and their final effect on his good or ill fortune.

The successful dairyman is not content with the low average; he realizes that the best profit in the business is found in being above the average. So he does what the average man does not do—he reaches out for dairy knowledge; he studies, he observes, he does all he can to enlarge his understanding and his ability to see.—Hoard's Dairyman.

**RUMORED RAILROAD EXTENSION**

There is a well founded rumor in circulation that the Southern Pacific Company will extend the branch road from Woodburn by way of Scio, Beaver creek and Lebanon to a connection with the Tallmann-Springfield line.

As already noted in these columns, it is to be extended over the Cascade mountains east of Eugene to connect with the Klamath Falls extension, thus making a continuous road by this new line, over which all heavy freight trains will be hauled.

This last proposition was published in nearly every paper on the Pacific coast about a year ago, when it was given out by railroad officials that when the Klamath Falls branch was completed, all the heavy freight trains would go via this route, thus avoiding the heavy grade over the Siskiyou mountains.

It is well understood that the only safe and available place for a railroad bridge to span the South Santiam river is in the vicinity of Lebanon.

The Southern Pacific Company has refused to rebuild the bridge at Crabtree, for the reason that the shifting of the channel of the river renders it impossible to make the structure hold. The company has already bridged this stream twice at this point, and in each instance the high waters have swept them away.

If this rumor proves true, this section should be greatly benefited. Also, the good effects of the chance should be felt in that part of the country lying north of the South Santiam, one of the richest portions of the Willamette valley. Aside from being a great agricultural country, its soil is particularly adapted to the raising of various kinds of berries and other fruits.

Rapid transportation for this product is what is needed, so it can be marketed without the attendant delay which it is now subjected to under present conditions.

Under the system above noted there would be fifty acres planted to fruit where there is but one at this writing.

It is certain that this proposition would meet with the hearty approval of the people of this vicinity. At the same time it looks good for the railroad company—Lebanon Express.

The finding of a coin of the early Christian Era in a field near Forest Grove has caused no little speculation as to how it came there. Antiquarian finds in Oregon are not common. The coin has been identified as of the period of Emperor Severus, who ruled Rome from 146 to 211 A. D. The coin is a very rare one, but a few being known to be in existence.

The question of "Shall the Federal government have power to enact an income tax law" will now be submitted to the legislatures of the various states for ratification or rejection. If the question could be submitted to the people instead of the legislatures, it would be adopted without question; but legislatures have been known to be influenced.

**USES OF ALFALFA**

Alfalfa hay is going into towering stacks all over the great fields throughout the Lower Umatilla country. It is becoming a staple in many ways. First for stock fed green or dry. Next as a ground meal, for which product Echo is famous. Then it is being utilized by the down-trodden tobacco trust to make smoking tobacco from. One well-known brand with the picture of a gentleman cow rampant is by U. S. analysts said to be composed of 60 per cent alfalfa. This is not the end of the usefulness of alfalfa, for it is said to make good greens when cut young, to make a nutritious breakfast food when ground into meal and even to be made into bread to advantage. All a country editor needs is an acre or two of alfalfa to grow fat, live happily and die of old age.—Echo Register.

That apple growers of Oregon have nothing to fear from the danger of overproduction is the statement of Wilbur K. Newell, president of the State Board of Horticulture, who has recently returned from the East. He says the industry is not likely to be overdone and that the demand for Oregon fruit now exceeds the supply in many quarters. While away, he visited many apple growing districts of the East. He found Oregon apples well established in Eastern markets and said the price paid for fruit from this state exceeds that given for the Eastern product.

Portland will have an improved market for the livestock of the Northwest early in the coming month when the big stockyards on the Peninsula will be opened. It is said the new facilities to be offered for the marketing of stock will be the best on the Pacific coast. At the start the yards will have a capacity of 75 cars, or nearly 2000 head of cattle; 10,000 head of sheep, or about 75 cars; and 4000 head of hogs, or 50 cars. This capacity can easily be doubled as the occasion requires. The yards will be run in connection with the new packing plant now being built on the Peninsula.

Action taken by President Taft in setting aside the Josephine county caves as a National reserve meets with the hearty approval of the people of this state, who are interested in preserving its natural wonders. One square mile including the entrance to the caves has been made a reservation, belonging to the government, by proclamation just signed. The caves make up a wonderful collection of rocky caverns and galleries in the side of a mountain in the Grayback range, about 30 miles south of Grants Pass.

Oregon fir is becoming a favorite wood for car builders says A. H. Wastell, secretary of the Oregon and Washington Lumber Manufacturers Association, who has just returned from the East. Not only is it used for sills and heavy timbers in building passenger equipment but for siding and finishing as well. As a result of Mr. Wastell's visit, the Oregon wood will be more extensively used for this purpose in future.

The Republican majority in congress seem to think that a few hundred trust magnates and manufacturers own the country. How badly mistaken they will find themselves to be, one of these days, when the people get a whack at matters. The Republican majority must think the people are fools and do not understand the fact that a very large sized lemon is being handed to them in the proposed tariff bill.

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<b>Ladies Dress Slippers</b> Patent, Vici, Tan, or Black \$3 and \$4 val. .... <b>\$1.50</b> Your choice.....	<b>Girls and Childrens White Canvas Lawn Shoes</b> \$1 and \$1.50 val. .... <b>50c</b> Your choice.....	<b>Ladies Summer Waists</b> Black or White \$1.50 and \$2 val. .... <b>98c</b> Your choice.....

**SUMMER DRESS GOODS**

20c Lawns and Demities, Extra good values in many different patterns, per yd. .... <b>9 1/2c</b>	35c Summer Dress Goods in all the new colors and weaves. Sale price ..... <b>19c</b>
10c summer Lawns and Bateste in a good variety of patterns Sale price ..... <b>5c</b>	15c summer Dress Goods, just the thing for summer. Sale price ..... <b>7 1/2c</b>

Don't fail to attend this sale, come at once, the goods are going to move fast. Low prices under high pressure of high qualities makes them move. Regular price charged for goods sold on time.

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 Linn County FAIR starts in August  
 Linn County FAIR Starts in August

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