

The Santiam News

Politically Independent

Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
T. L. DUGGER
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

JUSTICE IN TAXATION THE OBJECT

IF ALL MEN WERE HONEST and truly patriotic, there would be no necessity for the enactment of stringent laws. If every citizen was willing to bear his just portion of the burden of government, almost any method of taxation would be satisfactory to the people. Unfortunately, most men are dishonest when the assessor makes his annual visit. They neglect or forget to list much invisible property and endeavor to influence the assessor to place a low valuation upon the property they do list with him. For this reason, there has ever been an effort on the part of law making bodies to enact laws regulating taxation, which are difficult for the tax dodger to evade. Nor is it probable that any law will ever be devised which will cause all property owners to bear their just proportion of governmental expenses.

Our Federal government is barred from levying a direct tax, by the Federal constitution. But a method of indirect taxation has been devised which does not, even, make a pretense of being equitable nor in proportion to the property holdings of the individual citizen. Through the so-called "Protective Tariff" system, and later on, the "Trusts," certain favored citizens are enabled to levy tribute from the great body of the people—consumers. They are enabled to do this because the tariff blocks foreign competition and the trusts regulate the amount of the home product and the price people must pay for it.

Direct taxation is a prerogative of the several states and it has ever been the effort of state legislatures to devise a law, by or through which all property owners should bear a just portion of the tax burden. The laws which have heretofore obtained have failed to accomplish this purpose. The people, at the last general election, adopted an entirely new plan.

Every county, by this new plan, is given authority to regulate its own system of taxation, and the Oregonian thinks that the "single tax" theory is sure to be adopted in every county.

As a matter of fact, no different tax system to that which we now have, can be adopted until the people vote for a change. And as each county has now been made the unit for taxation purposes, it can retain the present system, or adopt any other system which the individual county may see proper to select. The Oregonian seems to think that this unitizing of the counties for purposes of taxation,

will result in scaring foreign capital away from us. Why? Evidently, this foreign capital expects to receive especial favors, if it should be invested among us. But, unless it can submit to the same laws and requirements to which the rest of us are compelled to submit, we do not desire that it shall be invested among us.

But suppose that one or more counties shall think favorably of the Henry George theory of taxation? Suppose that they elect to try it and suppose that this theory of taxation, in practice, should be satisfactory to the people? Then our good friend, the Oregonian, would have to eat crow, as it generally does, when reform legislation is adopted. We have seen that paper opposed to the initiative and referendum and to the direct primary; yet these laws are proving quite satisfactory to the people and there does not seem to be any disposition to repeal them. Perhaps the single tax theory may prove equally acceptable to the people.

The fact of the matter is, big business corporations and large holders of wealth are continually trying to escape taxation, in whole or in part. We see it in Linn county and, presumably, every other county in the state has a similar experience. It is this class of our people which have forced the adoption of reform laws. And the people will continue to adopt more stringent tax measures until they feel that big business and other large holders of wealth are bearing their just portion of the burden of government.

Just what will be the result of each county selecting its own method of taxation, remains to be seen. But, it is safe to say, land held for speculative purposes, corporations and other large holders of wealth, either in cash, bonds or other securities, will have to bear their just portion of the tax burden, providing that the people can devise a plan which will force the payment.

So far as we can learn, there is no disposition on the part of the people to cause capital in its many forms, to be inequitable taxed. They do not expect capital to pay a higher tax, relatively, than they themselves are willing to pay. But they do expect that the favoring of corporations and capital, by the assessor, shall cease. They have a right to demand this; nor will they cease their efforts until that result is accomplished.

We do not have to persuade capital to come among us. Capital will go wherever investment seems promising. We have the most inviting field for investment which our nation affords and there need be no fears that capital will be scared away. Wherever dividends can be earned, capital will be invested. But of course, it will make the best terms possible for itself. If allowed, it will dictate the kind of laws it wishes enacted, etc. Capital has dominated over our law-making bodies so long—congress included for the past fifty years, that it seems to think it possesses a sort of vested right to dictate to the people in this regard.

But the reign of capital, in a measure, is drawing to a close. The day is close at hand when the man will be regarded as being superior to the dollar. We do not think that capital is to be confiscated nor taken from its holders forcibly; but it will be required to bear its just portion of the burden of government.

Let us hope that, Oregon the leader in reform legislation, has stumbled upon a plan to accomplish this end.

THOMAS & SON

Grocery Department

Compare our prices with what you pay elsewhere

Good heavy 4 seam broom . . . 25c	Columbia wheat, per package 30c
Arm & Hammer soda, 5c package, 6 pkgs. 25c	Regular 25 cent package of coffee 15c
3 bottles of mustard 25c	Pop corn, per pound 5c
3 packages of rasins 25c	10 pound best ground meal 30c
9 bars of laundry soap 25c	10 pound graham meal 30c
Best quality of peaches in sanitary tins, per can 15c	Delmonico Preferred stock cane syrup in gallon tins 90c
Best corn syrup, per gallon 45c	We recommend Heinz pickles, Shillings extracts Chase & Saborns teas, coffee, Hess Stock Food, Cleveland Baking powders, Preferred Stock canned goods.
Best corn syrup, half-gallon 25c	
9 pound sack of corn meal eastern, per sack 30c	
Olympic pan cake flour per package 25c	

If any of these goods are not satisfactory, we will refund your money. Give us a trial order and just see what you can save. When you save \$2 on a grocery or dry goods bill, you have earned \$2.00, an ordinary days wages. Begin the New Year Right

DRY GOODS DEPARTMENT

Don't forget this department as it is getting more complete every week. We have just received a large shipment of Overalls, Jumpers and Pants. Yes, we have your size if you are not younger than 3 years or larger than 50 inches waist measure. We have a nice line of fancy up-to-date dress goods. Everything is new. Call and see them.

THOMAS & SON

Stayton

Oregon

Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Co.

Traffic Department

ANNOUNCEMENT

The above named Company was incorporated December 23, 1910 for the purpose of taking over the following lines:

The Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company
Oregon and Washington Railroad Company
The North Coast Railroad Company
Idaho Northern Railroad Co.
Ilwaco Railroad Company

In future these lines will be operated by and in the name of
The Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Co.

F. W. Robinson
General Freight Agent
Portland, Ore.

Wm. McMurray
General Passenger Agent
Portland, Ore.

W. D. Skinner
General Freight and Passenger Agent
Seattle, Washington

R. B. Miller
Traffic Manager

Standard Liquor Co.

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Telephone Main 175 148-156 Commercial St.

A. G. MAGERS, Prop. Salem, Oregon

THE ESMOND HOTEL

Centrally located, good rooms, prices moderate, courteous treatment

Corner Morrison and Front Streets
PORTLAND OREGON

A. SHANKS

—Manufacturer and Dealer in—
Harness and Saddles
Carriage Trimming Repair Work Solicited

All Work Strictly Guaranteed
SHELBY, OREGON

TEBAULT REAL ESTATE CO.

REAL ESTATE DEALERS

Stock Ranches, Fruit Ranches, Farm and City Property of all Kinds, Timber Lands
If you have land to sell and wish it handled in a legitimate manner without graft come in and see us.

C. W. TEBALD
Lyor's St. Albany, Ore.

F. W. KING

CARPENTERING AND GENERAL CONSTRUCTION
SCIO, OREGON

Plans and Specifications Furnished if Desired

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS
PRESIDENT, W. F. Gill.	J. J. Barnes, W. F. Gill,
SECRETARY, C. A. Warner	J. A. Bilyeu, J. R. Barnes,
	C. A. Warner.

Scio Milling Company

SUCCESSOR TO
SCIO ROLLER MILLS

INCORPORATED DECEMBER 28, 1904.

We do a General Custom Milling Business. Flour and Feed on Sale. Wheat Bought and Exchanged for Flour. We are in the Field for Business and Will Treat You Right

New Rebate Plan

I announce with pleasure that I have adopted the dividend plan as advised by the National Cash Register company, which is as follows:

With every cash purchase I give the purchaser a printed check, issued by my new register showing the amount of your purchase. Save these checks; return \$10 worth and receive 25 cents.

With every \$10 worth of checks returned, you will have a free chance on the oil cook stove, exhibited in my front window, the drawing to occur April 1. Call and get a free ticket, which counts as \$2 on the first collection.

N. I. MORRISON

Final Settlement Notice

Notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern. That the undersigned has filed his final account in the matter of the estate of G. W. Vernon deceased, in the county court of Linn County, Oregon; and that said court has fixed the 6th day of February, 1911 at the hour of nine o'clock a. m. of said day as the time for the hearing and settling of all objections to said account. All persons having any objection to said account are hereby notified to file the same on or before said last mentioned date, in said court.

Dated this 23 day of December, 1910.

J. F. LEFFLER
Administrator.

First publication December 23, 1910.

Last publication January 27, 1911.