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**The Tillamook Headlight,**

**Editorial Snap Shots.**

Tillamook is a city with a great future. There is no getting away from that fact.

Woman suffrage carried in California, and now there is some hope of Oregon conferring the same rights upon the women of this state.

The city shouldn't pay officers to take drunken men to their homes or rooms. They should take them to the cooler and make them pay a fine when they sober up. But is it the model system of running a town that is now in vogue?

Using a gun on a drunken man should be the last thing that an officer should resort to. The city needs a big husky night watchman who can take care of himself without having to load a man with lead who is loaded with booze and don't know what he is doing.

There is considerable idle land in this county, and wherever roads have been built so as to make it suitable to cultivation, that kind of land should be assessed higher than tillable land which have no roads or a way out. Ease off as much as possible upon those who have improved the land and raise the assessment upon those who are holding unimproved land for speculation.

No one doubts for one moment that Governor West was thoroughly sincere in his prison policy of paroling the criminal classes. Had he consulted the sheriffs and the prosecuting attorneys, men who have to deal with the capture and conviction of criminals, we think that he would have adopted a totally different prison policy turning criminals loose after taking so much money to catch and convict them.

It will be noticed that there is an increase in the assessment of town and city lots, brought about by seaside property being improved and platted off. This is a jump of nearly \$400,000 in the assessment, amounting to \$1,113,537. Town and city lots assessments will add greatly to the taxable property from now on, and when adding the different items together, the tillable lands are paying only one third more taxes than town and city lots.

The Board of Equalization had an idle time this week, for few persons looked up their assessment. This is somewhat surprising, considering that so many persons claimed that they are assessed too high. Here is an opportunity for them to enter their protests and state their reasons, but somehow they do not care to do so. It maybe they are scared they would have to answer a few leading questions propounded by the Board as to the actual value of their property.

Here is another case where it depends upon whose ox is being gored. When Marshal Redding clubbed a drunken man who was killed by the fall, Councilman Wilt was the first to condemn the officer. A revolver is a much more dangerous weapon to use upon a drunken man, and that being the case, we wonder whether Wilt still is of the opinion that Redding was deserving of criticism and his own acts blameless. Both may have been too hasty in felling the wrong men. They should have felled and plugged to parties who sold the liquor to these men. That is the kind of model saloon law that is needed.

Tillamook's fighting whiskey and bloated model saloon law is responsible for what transpired on Main street early on Tuesday morning. Had the saloon keepers refused to sell intoxicating liquor to a man who had imbibed too much, it would have saved the Watchman from using his gun and Tom Kellow from being shot down. The saloon keepers are

after a man's money, and this is one result of it. But the people wanted Home Rule and the city is supposed to be run under what is called a model saloon law, yet drunkenness prevails to such an extent that the City Marshal had to fell one man with his "billy," the fall killing him; the Night Watchman shot down a man; men getting into a fistic encounter in broad daylight on Main street over gambling, etc. So much for the model saloon law, it is a peach.

In the year 1902 timber claims were assessed at \$1,000 by Assessor Stephens, and County Judge Conder run a bluff on the Board of Equalization and had the assessment reduced 40 per cent, making the assessment only \$600 on a timber claim. Clerk Mason was the only member of the Board to stand out against the reduction after the assessor had raised the assessment on timber claims 40 per cent, and the county lost the money. It is true this is ancient history, but anyone can verify what we have stated by consulting the 1902 roll, but we simply mention this incident to draw a comparison and to give a little information on facts which the taxpayers are not conversant with. Some of the timber claims which were assessed in 1902 for \$1000 and reduced to \$600 on account of Judge Conder's determination not to raise the assessment on timber, have been gradually raised by Assessor Hare to \$12,500.

The snap shot man is now the target for the Bay City Examiner. We have not the least objection to that, but we have to the system of resorting to personalities when a public question is up for discussion. The snap shot man has been assailed a great many times by mushroom editors in this county who attempted to cut a great swath, but they all died natural deaths. As to whether we have grown fat and saucy on account of this we will not presume to say. It is clear, however, to our mind that the kind of journalism they are now getting at Bay City is a detriment, in a business way, to the city on the bay and a benefit to Tillamook City, for when a newspaper or a city goes on record as opposed to road improvements people will look up and take notice. We want to inform Bro. Trombley that we have lived a long time in Tillamook county and have come in for more criticism over matters of public policy than any person in the county, and as time rolls on we expect to come in for the same treatment where there is such a diversity of opinion and it is hard to get people out of old ruts after being bottled up in this isolated country for so years. Any newspaper that is progressive and advocates opening up the country must expect a certain amount of opposition. But, say, dear Bro. Trombley, what was the cause of your sudden skiddoo from the village up the slough when you left a business on Main street? For a little variation, Bro., let us now discuss that, not that we want to be personal, for the road discussion is about thrashed out and it is up to the people to conclude which is the best policy—closing down road work for eighteen months or go ahead with it.

What better business proposition would anyone need than this? A ten mill road levy will raise \$150,000. The timber men pay \$112,500 of that amount. As the county needs the roads and as the \$150,000 will go into the pockets of farmers who will need the work next year, all must admit that roads are being built in this county at very little cost to the settlers and is a financial benefit to them a well, and which is distributed in all parts of the county. Good roads advocates should remember this when assailed by those who are endeavoring to curtail road work. With a ten mill tax, not including the timber, all other property will pay towards \$150,000 worth of road work would be \$38,000. We think it is a good business proposition to build good roads under such favorable financial conditions, especially when it benefits the farmers' property to have good roads. Good roads is what helped to develop the cheese industry of this county and the building of cheese factories in remote sections, making the dairy farms much more valuable. It was on account of having no roads which kept the dairy industry back in the Nehalem

country, and as there is a whole raft of idle land which would be improved if it had an outlet, we advocate, in justice to all parts of the county, that road building be prosecuted as rapidly as possible, for the county is only in its infancy as far as development is concerned. Those who have good roads should not attempt to retard the progress of other parts of the county.

**Scraps.**

Turkey is a good example of the fatal policy of standing still while other nations are forging ahead.

Anyway, President Taft is having better success in his coast-to-coast journey than any of the aviators has had.

A genealogist says John D. Rockefeller has four kings in his ancestry. He has long had four aces in his hand.

Ships will be towed through the Panama Canal by locomotives. It is a good sign to find railroads and waterways getting together in mutual helpfulness.

The Arkansas planters have resolved to hold their cotton until the price reaches 15 cents. Under the protective policy Arkansas has acquired the means to hold on to a good thing.

Mr. Roosevelt has been invited to hunt whales along the California Coast. Whaling is offered him as a new experience. But his enemies in New York charge that he had a whaling last year.

Anxious as a Turk is to meet a soldier's death and enter the society of celestial hours, he is not rushing in to act as shortstop in dealing with 12-inch shells from the Italian ships.

The Turks realize that sea power is a vital modern requirement. But they are eager to show that in a clinch with knives, spears or any sort of old-fashioned cutlery they will make it hot for the latest improvements.

It begins to appear, in view of new frauds, that other bills of lading than those on cotton can be used to swindle banks. The banks, it seems, are as much in need of a paternal government as anybody else.

James J. Hill has just said again that the best times the country has ever had are just ahead, with nothing but confidence needed to make the turn in the road. And confidence is sure to come when it is deserved.

President Taft repeats that the Panama Canal will be open for the passage of ships January 1, 1913. With that date only fifteen months away the various committees on celebration should keep their eyes on the calendar.

Woodrow Wilson would not permit the New Jersey Democrats to indorse his candidacy for president, but he stood for a resolution offered by the committee of which he was chairman indorsing his "able and brilliant administration" as governor.

Just as the people are turning to a fish diet as a measurable relief from exorbitant meat prices, a "scientist" announces that fishes are filled with many diseases and make an unhealthful food. Is he an emissary of the meat trust?

No man—farmer or what not—can afford to be an "average" man in his business. The product of the average farm in the United States is worth \$850. The figures show that the farmer who uses the most improved implements and methods produces 50 to 100 per cent more than the average. There are only about 300 good working days in the year on the farm, and every day must be made to count.—Kansas Farmer.

The mayor of Indianapolis is showing one way of meeting the high prices of food. Commission men having advanced the price of potatoes beyond reason, the mayor bought a car-load lot of 500 bushels and sold them at cost with freight added. The price was about 60 per cent of that charged by retailers. If representative government were always and everywhere as practical and utilitarian as this we might hear less of initiatives, referendums and recall.

According to one of its own newspapers, Italy has 200,000 people who live in straw huts or caves because they are too poor to afford houses; 100,000 of its population have recently died of pellagra owing to lack of nourishment; it has 1300 communes without a supply of drinking water and 5000 without sewers; 500,000 persons inhabit malarial districts which need reclaiming; 60 per cent of the 33,000,000 people of the kingdom are illiterate, and 500,000 of them are compelled to leave their country every year because they are unable to find work at home, and emigration is their only refuge from starvation. It may be added, too, that most of these 500,000 come to the United States.



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