

EQUALIZERS

State Tax Board at Work

D. P. Thompson Lets Fall the Glittering Axe of Reform.

As soon as the Board was organized Secretary Wells made out his official report of the organization of the board and filed the same with the secretary of state. He then requested of the secretary the needed supplies in the way of stationery for the use of the board, and he was furnished with ink, paper, pens, pencils, inkstand, etc. The question out of which fund the expenditure for the supplies of the board should be charged to is a matter which for the time being caused some discussion. Secretary Kincaid holds that the expenditures for stationery, occasioned by the work of the board, shall be out of the funds appropriated for that purpose by the legislature, while heretofore the same has been paid out of the incidental funds. In order to settle the matter Attorney-General Idleman will be asked for an opinion.

The secretary was instructed to write to the assessors and county judges of the different counties and ascertain the basis of their assessment of the different classes of property, and the secretary and his assistants were busily employed in carrying out this order last evening.

During the afternoon a number of rolls, sent in by the county clerks, were examined and it was found in many cases the totals were not added at all, or, if added, were incorrect. Thus one error was found in the footing of one roll amounting to \$600. Considerable correspondence has always piled up and the secretary will be kept busy day and night for the first week attending to the work and clearing the desks.

SOME STATISTICS.

In Lane county improved land was assessed at an average value of \$12.70 per acre and uncultivated at \$2.07. Horses and mules at \$20.08 per head, cattle \$10 per head, sheep at \$1.01 and swine at \$2.01.

Twenty-two counties have so far reported their totals of the taxable property for the current year, to-wit:

Benton.....	\$2,744,243
Clatsop.....	4,006,399
Crook.....	1,664,578
Curry.....	512,032
Douglas.....	4,676,219
Lincoln.....	827,127
Malheur.....	1,117,089
Tillamook.....	1,126,351
Union.....	3,238,792
Wasco.....	2,886,684
Baker.....	2,163,879
Washington.....	4,461,632
Sherman.....	886,190
Columbia.....	1,875,790
Polk.....	4,021,471
Jackson.....	4,723,049
Morrow.....	1,076,362
Coos.....	2,824,900
Yamhill.....	5,020,421
Klamath.....	1,580,443
Josephine.....	1,133,877
Lane.....	6,408,415

FOR REFORM.

The surprise of the session was when D. P. Thompson brought down his axe of reform and cut the wages per diem of the three employes of the board. The clerks are to get \$6 a day and the messenger \$1.50 a day. Mr. Wingate said he had never paid a white man as low as \$1.50 a day, but as he labored hard to elect one of the clerks he did not appreciate Mr. Thompson's effort to cut their pay from \$10 a day to \$6. Heretofore the clerk has put in time before the board met and at \$10 a day got in about fifty days. This year the clerks are to put in no more days than the members of the board themselves, who are limited to thirty days. The board costs \$90 a day for thirty days for the members per diem alone and their mileage costs nearly as much more. But the mileage is the least unjust part of the expense, except where the members ride on passes and then charge the state besides. No one doubts that men who have so large a control over valuations for purposes of taxation can get all the passes they want. If the work of the state board were examined from the start it would be found they have released corporation property from taxation on a large scale—more than enough to pay for all their free rides. The board, not the gentlemen comprising it, audits its own accounts and is a kind of a little plutocratic senate, half of them being holdovers, and not really responsible to the people. The same work is done in nearly all other states by the three or five state officials and costs not one-half what it does here. The only valid objection to having the work done by the state officials here is that they have already too

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many kinds of duties, and as Jefferson says, it is the best interest of all that the powers of the state be distributed as widely as possible. It is certain that the practice of riding on passes and then charging the state mileage is not of recent origin and has not been abolished in Oregon and so perhaps the state tax board think they have as much right to do it as anyone else. The gray-bearded messenger is not exactly a winged-footed mercury. It is a noticeable fact that the young boys were shut out and for messenger this nimble old gentleman of about sixty was chosen—an ex-sheriff of Polk county. But there is a month to re-consider D. P. Thompson's reform spam and pay all the hand their old wages and we predict it will be done.

STATE NEWS.

By order of the school board the Canema, Or., school has been closed on account of diphtheria.

Robert Brown, of Portland, who had the misfortune of having his eyes injured with a gun will probably lose both his eyes.

S. T. Hobart, of Silverton, has shipped 430 hogs to Portland during the last two months. He was paid \$2.50 a hundred weight on foot.

Washington and Oregon shipped to San Francisco, in September, 20,982,672 feet of lumber, in October, 20,902,800 feet and for 10 months, of 1896, a total of 220,164,116 feet.

The Lewis and Clark river was frozen over so hard Sunday morning that the milkmen were obliged to break the ice before they could get their boats through into Young's bay.

At the city election in Marshfield the following named men were elected: W. H. S. Hyde, has served as town recorder for 16 years was re-elected, and W. F. Elrod was re-elected marshal. Following were the successful candidates for trustees: Thomas Howard, A. W. Neal, John Snyder and O. E. Smith.

Big Blocks Broken.

Last Thanksgiving day a large amount of rock from the Pioneer quarry left this city over the West-side en route to Gray's harbor, Wash. The rock was to be used in the construction of the light house which the government is erecting at that place. Now comes the remarkable feature, the rock on the road to Portland cracked, some of it a little, while quite a large amount of it went entirely to pieces. There are various opinions as to the cause of this, but the most popular theory is that the rock was shipped from the quarry before it was thoroughly dried and the extreme cold of the time caused the trouble. This is a misfortune, as a person unfamiliar with the causes and conditions that cracked the stone might condemn it prematurely. Experts have often tested it with heat, cold and pressure, and in all cases the Pioneer stone, when brought into competition with other stones has come out of the contest triumphant. In San Francisco Pioneer stone is being used in the construction of the largest and finest buildings in the city, and always with satisfactory results. It will probably develop that some unfavorable condition surrounding the quarrying and shipment of this lot, and not the stone itself is to blame for the present case. The correct explanation will be awaited with interest.—Corvallis Gazette.

Battle Ship Oregon.

It is learned that the monster warship Oregon will soon visit the Sound. It appears from the sea trials of the Oregon that she rolls "something terrible" in the least kind of a sea. This was provided against in the plan for the keel, which require that bilge keel be a part of the hull. The placing of these had to be postponed, however, they would have made the vessel entirely too large for the Hunter's Point drydock, Puget Sound, or that at Mare Island, San Francisco bay. It has been decided now that the bilge keels must be put on, so the big ship will be sent to the dock, to which the monster plates will be sent up by freight and put on.

Fifty-fifth Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The clerk of the house of representatives has issued the usual unofficial list of the members of the house of the fifty-fifth congress. The list shows that the house will be composed of 204 Republicans, 124 Democrats, thirteen fusionists, twelve Populists and three silverites, and that there is one vacancy from the first Missouri district. Of the total membership 205 were in the last house and ten others had served in previous congresses.

In Boiling Grease.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 3.—John Abel, a workman at the Nelson Morris dressed beef works, was horribly burned while at work yesterday. The flesh on the right leg was parboiled. Abel tripped on the greasy floor in the rendering room and fell into a vat of boiling grease.

LIBERATED.

Jameson, the Raider, Free

His Release Was Ordered on Medical Grounds.

LONDON, Dec. 3.—Dr. Leander S. Jameson was released last evening, at 9 o'clock at Holloway jail, in compliance with the order of the home secretary. Dr. Jameson underwent a serious operation in jail on November 19th and his release was ordered on medical grounds. He was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment, on July 28th last, on the charge of violating the neutrality laws, invading the territory of the South African republic.

Can Now Sell Breech Loaders.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The secretary of the treasury, with the approval of the president, issued an order removing the restrictions placed heretofore upon the importation and sale in the territory of Alaska, except the islands of St. George and St. Paul, of breech-loading rifles, and ammunition suitable therefor. This action was taken in compliance with numerous requests from various sections of the country.

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Is contained in a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla than in any other similar preparation. It cures the pruritic, urticarial, and other eruptions of the skin, and is worth more to the consumer. It has a record of cures unknown to any other preparation. It is the best to buy because it is the One True Blood Purifier. Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic and liver medicine. Gentle, reliable, sure.

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The new coin toes are the latest in shoes. Krause Bros. have them 11-13-tf.

Contract for Bridge.

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—Secretary Swan, of the New York & New Jersey Bridge company made a contract with the Union Bridge Company, of this city for building a bridge over the Hudson, at a cost not to exceed \$25,000,000.

Mr. Swan added that the construction bonds covering the cost of the bridge, its approaches and stations will soon be offered to investors.



Before the finished fruit come bud and blossom. Bud grows into blossom and blossom into fruit. And so a girlhood merges into womanhood and the woman into motherhood.

The two most critical times in a woman's life are the times which make the girl a woman, and the woman a mother. At these times, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is of incalculable value. It turns danger into safety and pain into ease. It is a medicine which has but one object. It is good for but one thing. It strengthens and invigorates the organs distinctly feminine, it promotes regularity of the functions, allays irritation and inflammation, checks unnatural, exhausting drains, and puts the whole delicate organism into perfect condition. Almost all of the ills of womanhood are traceable to some form of what is known as "female complaint." And this generally begins either at the time of puberty or childbirth, or at the "turn of life." There are not three cases in a hundred of woman's peculiar diseases that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will not cure. Thousands of grateful women have been rendered healthy and happy by its use, and the experience and testimony of many of them has been included in Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser.

When Dr. Pierce published the first edition of his work, The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser, he announced that after 600,000 copies had been sold at the regular price, \$1.50 per copy, the profit on which would repay him for the great amount of labor and money expended in producing it, he would give away the next half million free. He is now distributing, absolutely free, 500,000 of this most complete, interesting and valuable common sense medical work ever published—the recipient only being required to mail to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, at Buffalo, N. Y., twenty-five (25) one-cent stamps to pay cost of mailing only, and the book will be sent post-paid. It is a veritable medical library, complete in one volume. It contains over 1000 pages and more than 300 illustrations. The new Edition is precisely the same as that sold at \$1.50 except only that the books are bound in strong manilla paper covers instead of cloth. Send now before all are given away. They are going off rapidly, therefore, do not delay sending immediately if you want one.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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MRS. N. B. SCOTT—Stenographer and typewriter, room 12, over Laid & Bush's bank. Prompt attention to all classes of work. 12-2 tf

Counter and railing for sale cheap. Address C. M. Lockwood, Salem Oregon. 1-31

FOR RENT—Eleven acres adjoining the Indian school, at Chemawa, five acres of garden land, good house, barn and well water. By month or year for low cash rent. Address Box 145, or apply at G. W. Pearmain, two miles north of town on river road. 11-25tf

CARPET PAPER—Large lot of heavy brown wrapping paper for sale cheap. Just the thing for putting under carpets. Call a Journal office.

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Dealer in groceries, paints, oils, window glass, varnishes, and the most complete stock of brushes of all kinds in the state. Artists' materials, lime, hair, cement and shingles, and finest quality of grass seeds.

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Please notice the cut in prices on the following:

Shirts, plain.....	10 cents
Under drawers.....	5 to 10 cents
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Open spicket to prevent freezing, positively prohibited. Care should be taken if in danger of freezing to have stop and waste gate closed, see section 3, rules and regulations. No deduction in bills will be allowed for absence or for any cause whatever unless water is cut off from premises.

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11-27 1m H. E. ROBERTS, Fruitland

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