

THUMB-SCREWS ON YOLOITES.

The State Equalizers Give Them Some Wicked Turns.

The Solano Officials Were Held Over a Slow Fire for a While.

The State Board of Equalization yesterday heard from Yolo and Solano Counties as to their assessments.

Yolo County was heard during the morning session. The county was represented by Assessor Mark Chamberlain, Supervisors D. F. Haux, E. Casselman and John Schuerley, and M. Sparks, a prominent farmer owning large tracts of land in the vicinity of Winters and Davisville.

Last year the State Board of Equalization lowered the assessment of Yolo County 10 per cent. The increase of the Assessor's roll over that of last year is \$220,000, but this increase did not satisfy the board, and Yolo was cited to appear and show cause why its assessment should not be raised even more.

The inquiry was led by Chairman Morehouse, who inquired closely as to the values of Yolo's rich farming and fruit lands. He followed closely the inequalities appearing on the assessment roll.

The Supervisors were unanimous in the opinion that there was a decrease in values in the county, variously estimated at from 5 to 15 per cent. The market for real estate at the present time is not a criterion, as there is no demand at all, and it was difficult to sell land at any price. The only way to reach an estimate of what land is worth is, they held, to take the profits as a basis. On this in many cases there was not over 2 to 4 per cent. profit on the assessed value.

Equalizer Arnold took Assessor Chamberlain in charge and proceeded to turn on the "thumb screws." He commenced in the tule swamps of the Sacramento and gradually led up to the fertile soils about Woodland.

Mr. Chamberlain first responded promptly as to his reasons for making figures, but as he approached subdivisions and town lots he hesitated more than suited the southern equalizer. "Now, is it not a fact," inquired Mr. Arnold, "that the nearer you get to home the less you know of your assessments?"

This lash from Mr. Arnold's wit was promptly responded to by Chamberlain, who said it was easy enough to assess a swamp, but quite another thing to keep pace with a city.

But Arnold laid up for the Assessor a little joker and this he took out of his desk. It was the report of the State Bank Commissioners.

"Did you ever see the Bank Commissioners' report?" he inquired.

Mr. Chamberlain thought he had. "Did you know," continued Arnold, "that the Bank of Woodland has a capital of over \$1,000,000?"

"I knew it was a solid concern," responded the Assessor.

"So it is," said Arnold, smiling, "and on the same day you assessed them for \$80,400 cash and no solvent credits, they made oath to the Bank Commission that they had on hand \$88,400 cash and \$220,000 solvent credits. They had commercial loans of \$43,000, and other loans of \$55,000. Yes, it's a solid concern, and will remain so under your assessments."

Mr. Chamberlain was sure there was some mistake.

"That's what we think," interjected Chairman Morehouse.

"But I mean," corrected the Assessor, "that your figures are wrong. I surely assessed a large amount of solvent credits."

"No, you did not," interposed Controller Colgan. "You sent me these figures yourself and you should at least be correct."

The Assessor then took refuge under the excuse that the bank swore to their assessment and he could not see that he was to blame.

"You don't mean to say," inquired Arnold, "that you and your Board of Supervisors will allow a big institution like this to escape just taxation, when according to your own statements, you are taxing the farming community for more than their property is worth? Gentlemen, you are doing a great injustice to the farmers and fruit growers."

"Here is the statement of the Bank of Yolo. They gave in to your Assessor \$24,750 cash and no solvent credits. They swore to the commissioners they had \$59,000 cash and \$20,000 solvent credits. The Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank gave you \$18,000 cash and no solvent credits. They had \$29,000 cash, \$15,000 solvent credits and \$11,000 of county money."

Mr. Chamberlain thought the banks might explain the discrepancies. He could not.

The personal property of the county was gone into, and it was shown that there was a falling off in wheat estimated at \$50,000, and a large amount in horses and cattle.

Mr. Sparks was called upon and gave the board much information from his experience as an extensive farmer. He paid \$100 per acre for much of his land eight years ago, which he could not now sell for \$50 per acre. The first four years he had farmed in Yolo he made a fair interest on his investment, but during the last two years he had not made 4 per cent.

Before taking a recess Mr. Morehouse suggested that there was one question the board had forgotten.

"You have been," said the Chairman, with grave concern, "Assessor of Yolo for two years. Now, how long?"

Here the Chairman was interrupted by Mr. Beamer. "I object to that question," he exclaimed. "That is a

stereotype upon which Controller Colgan has a patent. I—" But amid a roar of laughter the Chairman declared the board would take a recess.

SOLANO UNDER FIRE.

The afternoon was devoted to taking Solano County to task for a sweeping reduction of \$1,500,000 in her tax-roll. Sheriff B. F. Rush, Assessor Charles Chimer, Supervisors George Clark and Hugh Buckingham and Lawyer George A. Lamont were the Solanoists who stood the fire from the State Equalizers.

Assessor Chimer declared that the value of property all over his county had declined fully 30 or 35 per cent. Being fully imbued with this belief, he had made a reduction of about 10 per cent. on all the lands in the county.

Controller Colgan wanted to know whether the Assessor had made the decrease of assessment on the basis of the 10 per cent. given them by the State Board last year.

Chimer replied that it was not. He had made it believing conscientiously that the assessments were too high. Hard times were responsible for it.

At this point Equalizer Arnold took up his cue and wanted to know what the total of solvent credits throughout the county were.

By reference to memoranda he replied, "Fifty-five thousand dollars."

"Now, how do you reconcile this," asked his inquisitor, "with the fact that you have two banks alone, the Bank of Dixon and the Bank of Suisun, which have in solvent credits \$140,000?"

It was the same old snag on which so many other Assessors had stranded, and Assessor Chimer was glad to change the subject to real estate again.

Chairman Morehouse wanted someone to convince him that there was no land in the vicinity of Vacaville worth more than \$200 per acre. He gave his desire a practical turn by asking Mr. Buckingham if he would take \$200 an acre for his land.

That gentleman replied that he would not, but retorted by asking why it was the best Butte County orange orchard was only worth \$90 per acre, and a Vacaville peach orchard was thought to be worth more than \$200 per acre.

"Now, here," interrupted Equalizer Beamer, "just because Mr. Arnold yesterday found one little, measly orange orchard up there and jumped upon it with both feet, is no reason for you people to complain."

Assessor Chimer stated that five years ago he assessed some land about Vacaville at \$100 per acre, and there was no complaint, but now the same persons complained of \$150 and \$200 per acre. He was willing to confess that the boom at Vacaville had burst, and the people were suffering from it.

Mr. Beamer announced that the board was about winded, as Solano was just over the fence from Yolo, and the same questions had been gone over. At this the investigation closed.

POHEIM ROBBERY.

Kelly Discharged, But Wagner and Lambert Held for Trial.

John Lambert, Frank Kelly and Harry Wagner, charged with the Poheim store robbery, were given a preliminary hearing yesterday by Justice Davis.

H. Wolf, manager of the store, testified as to the amount and quantity of the goods stolen, and Officer Naghel gave an account of the arrest and the confession or statement made by Lambert, implicating Kelly and Wagner. It was introduced in evidence and substantiated by City Attorney Brown.

On motion of Major Anderson, of counsel for the defense, Kelly was discharged, Justice Davis declaring that the evidence was not sufficient to show that he was a party to the crime. Lambert and Wagner were held to answer in the Superior Court.

Final Account Filed.

Benjamin Schwartz, executor of the estate of Henry Spierling, deceased, has filed in the Superior Court his final account. The costs of administration were \$224 41, and claims were presented to the amount of \$668 85. There was a deficiency of \$300 in the sale of real estate.

The matter will be heard on the 4th of September.

All That is Necessary

To show that we are selling the finest pianos made at lowest prices ever named in Sacramento is to call and investigate. We invite you to do so. If you do not buy elsewhere you are the loser. Remember, we buy direct from the factory. Hammer's Music Store, 818 J street.

Dairymen Milk Cans. Seamless necks, extra heavy and very strong. See this can and get our price before purchasing. American Cash Store, Eighth and K.

Optician. F. de Wolfe Hennah, at Masonic Temple. Office hours, 9 to 1, 2 to 5; Sundays, 9 to 12. Examination and consultation free.

Readers, Remember. This will be the last opportunity to get lots at auction prices in South Sacramento. Apply Edwin K. Alsip & Co., 1015 Fourth street.

"Send me 25 lbs C. C. C. Java Blend Coffee," wrote a hotel-keeper from a well-known town up the valley. "Every drummer that has been here this summer asks for C. C. C. Java Blend Coffee, and they tell me you sell it for 25c lb." Granger building, Tenth and K.

Smith's Dandruff Pomade cures dandruff, itching scalp and falling hair. Guaranteed to give entire satisfaction or money refunded by Washburn & Co.

Dr. Weldon, 806 J street, extracts teeth without pain; local anaesthetic.

THE BEST ONE EVER HELD.

That's What the Next State Fair Promises to Be.

The Saying is an Old One, But the Outlook Fully War-rants It.

"I don't care how often the remark has been made in past years," said Secretary Smith of the State Board of Agriculture to a "Record-Union" reporter yesterday, "I tell you the coming State Fair is going to be the biggest and best we've ever held!"

Then Mr. Smith ambled across the room to answer a call at the telephone, and this is what he said to the man at the other end of the wire: "I'm sorry for you old man, but that stall's the best we can give you now, and you won't be able to get that one to-morrow. Everything is chock-a-block at the Park, and if we had a hundred more stalls we could use very one of them."

"You see how it is," he added, turning to the reporter, "there isn't a desirable stall at the Park that's not engaged, and the horses are coming in every day. We're going to have the grandest race meeting we've ever had. I've just been laboring over the programme, and it's a big one."

"Then a man came in who wanted to secure a certain space on the main floor of the Pavilion for an exhibit."

"You've come very late, sir," said the Secretary. "There has been such a demand for exhibition space that I'm afraid the best we can give you now will be a little corner somewhere. Practically everything has been taken already."

Inquiry developed the fact that in almost every department there has been an unusual demand for space for exhibits, and judging from the work now in progress at the great Exposition building it will present a picture of splendor that was never eclipsed even before the hard times era came on a few years ago. Carpenters, designers and other experts are busily engaged in putting together exhibits on a large scale, but the real rush will begin next week.

The interior of the Pavilion is being gorgeously but tastefully decorated by Byrne, who has few equals anywhere in that line. He is always getting up new designs, and the Pavilion this year will have many novel and pretty features in the way of decorations.

The large annex on the corner of Fifteenth and N streets, formerly devoted to agricultural implements, is completely filled with tables on which are being placed wire and cloth cages or coops for the poultry exhibit. Altogether, there appears to be at least a thousand of these cages.

A portion of the exhibit to be made under the auspices of the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce is already in position, and the work is being pushed along vigorously.

The firm of Shaw, Ingram, Batcher & Co., which last year had such a beautiful exhibit in the way of a miniature river steamboat, is now constructing a mammoth water wheel, designed to show the firm's resources in the way of water-pipe manufacture. There will be a miniature canal, with a pretty foot-bridge, the whole representing a scene in the mountains.

Other local firms are also preparing to place large exhibits.

The Art Gallery is again under the management of John Stanton, who had charge of it last year. Secretary Smith says Mr. Stanton writes that he is having good success in procuring pictures, and that the exhibit in that department will be a very attractive one.

Leaves Three Children.

Mollie (or Nellie) Allen, the woman who was murdered on Fourth street on Thursday afternoon by a man calling himself James Lee, leaves three children in Placerville, her former home. The man with whom she came here is named Sargent.

Cost Him Twenty.

John Green was yesterday taxed \$20 for having disturbed the peace. Hung Ping, a Chinaman who had brutally treated a horse, was fined \$5.

Vagrants Sentenced.

Justice Davis yesterday sentenced A. Wilson, a colored man, to 100 days for vagrancy, and Minnie Talbot, "his woman," to seventy days.

Optician.

Thousands suffer with headaches which can be remedied with properly fitted glasses. I prescribe and make glasses to correct complicated cases of defective vision. I am a skilled optician and have every facility for the correction of improper vision at my offices, Masonic Temple, Sacramento. Office hours, 9 to 12, 2 to 5; Sundays, 9 to 12.

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BORN.

LYNN—In this city, August 9th, to the wife of Ben J. Lynn, a daughter.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.

When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.

When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.

When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

WEINSTOCK, LUBIN & CO. For Carmen. Men's Fall Hats. Men's White Unlaundered Shirts in sizes 14, 14 1/2, 16 1/2 and 17. As the line of sizes is incomplete the price is 29c. Boys' Dark Colored Negligee Shirts, 25c. Men's Fancy Summer-weight Balbriggan Underwear. An excellent quality at 37c for shirts or drawers. Men's Percal Shirts with stiff collar and cuffs attached, reduced to 37c. Men's Sailor Knot Silk Scarfs in dark, medium or light patterns. Price, 25c. White Japanese Silk Handkerchiefs, hem-stitched borders, at 25c. Linen Collars, slightly soiled, 25c dozen. Weinstock, Lubin & Co., 400-412 K St.

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