

THE LEAVENWORTH ECHO

IN THE WENATCHEE VALLEY—HOME OF THE BIG RED APPLE—WHERE DOLLARS GROW ON TREES

VOLUME 21—NO. 52.

LEAVENWORTH, CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1922.

\$2.50 PER YEAR

HAVE THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS KEPT FAITH?

In the last issue of the Echo you were promised some facts and figures which would support some of the statements made under an article entitled, "Why Divide Chelan County?" The following is the first one of a series of articles which will give you the facts from the records at the county courthouse. These data have been compiled by a well known Spokane accountant.

Let us now enter the records of Chelan county. Today we will chiefly concern ourselves with the bond issue we voted for in September 1919. The following extracts from a resolution made by the county commissioners on the 8th day of August, 1919, are interesting when studied in the light of how this money was actually spent. These extracts are as follows:

"Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners in regular session assembled, that a special election be held in Chelan County, Washington, on the 20th day of September 1919, for the purpose of submitting to the legal voters of said county the question of issuing bonds to the amount of eight hundred thirty thousand (\$830,000) for the purpose of making new roads, building bridges and improving established roads in Chelan County."

"The improvements contemplated are to be completed as nearly as possible within four (4) years from the commencement of work and the money obtained from the sale of said bonds IS TO BE EXPENDED AS FOLLOWS:—"

1. "Concrete hard surfaced road 18 ft. wide from the City limits of the City of Wenatchee to the city limits of Leavenworth, (except portions heretofore paved).....\$300,000.00"

GRADING AND GRAVELING

2. "Sunset highway from the Methodist church at Peshastin, which is at the NE corner of the SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 21, Town. 24, N. Range 18, E.W.M. to Ingalls Creek..... \$ 45,000.00"

BRIDGES

3. "Concrete bridge over the Wenatchee River east of Cashmere..... \$ 70,000.00"
4. "Concrete bridge over Peshastin Creek on Sunset Highway..... \$ 10,000.00"
5. "Concrete bridge over Entiat River on State Road No 10..... \$ 10,000.00"

"Dated this 8th day of August, 1919.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHELAN COUNTY.

(Seal) "Geo. W. Milham.
"E. F. Cadman.
"E. C. Long.

"Attest by
"A. V. Shepard, Clerk of said Board."

For the purposes of this discussion the above bond proposals are numbered and will be referred to by number. Please note also that the above extract relating to "Bridges" includes all the bridges authorized by the voters at the bond election of the 20th day of September, 1919.

Now let us turn through the county records until we find how this money voted for 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 above was spent.

Bond proposal No. 1 authorized the county commissioners to spend \$300,000.00 for "Concrete hard surfaced road 18 ft. wide from the city limits of Wenatchee to the city limits of Leavenworth." With this in mind, a study of the following is illuminating:

EXPENDITURES ON CONTRACTS OF ROAD BOND ISSUES.

Bond Proposal No. 1			
Contract	Engineer's Ledger Cost	Cost	Bond Proposal Carried
1-A—Stewart Johnson & Co. Sunnyslope Grade.....	\$ 12,120.04		
1-B—Burke & Sengfelder North Monitor Grade.....	93,151.08		
1-C—Burke-Sengfelder & Berry East Cashmere Pavement.....	16,652.80		
1-C—Burke-Sengfelder & Berry Sunnyslope-Monitor Pavement.....	52,901.04		

1-D—Union Bridge Co. Sunnyslope Bridge Cost.....	24,407.17		
Bal from 11.....	.50		
Bal from 12.....	12,159.43		
		36,567.19	
1-E—W. L. Hill Jr. North Monitor Culverts.....	6,305.95		
1-F—Burke-Sengfelder & Berry Peshastin Creek Crossing.....	33,353.39		
1-G—Burke-Sengfelder & Berry North Monitor Grade Sta. 62 00 to Sta. 74 50.....	7,064.61		
1-H—Oscar Sampson North Monitor Grade Sta. 46 00 to Sta. 60 00.....	1,780.45		
1-J—T. W. Parrish Leavenworth-Peshastin Improvement.....	36,642.05		
General Expenses.....	319.41		
Engineer's Expenses.....	6,070.43		
	\$302,928.35	\$302,928.35	\$300,000.00

Especial attention is called to Contract 1-D with the Union Bridge Company. You will note that over \$36,000 was spent on the Sunnyslope Bridge. This \$36,567.19 was taken from the Road Bond proposal and spent on a structure not authorized by the voters. Board of County Commissioners, how to do justify this misuse of Road Bonds.

And this is not all. Referring to Bond Proposal No. 2 above you will note that \$45,000.00 was carried to grade and gravel the road from the Methodist church at Peshastin to Ingalls creek. In the county records this is known as Bond Proposal No. 4 and we read as follows under "expenditures on contracts of road bond issue":

"Bond Proposal No. 4			
Contract	Engineer's Ledger Cost	Cost	Bond Proposal Carried
4-A—Burke-Sengfelder & Berry Peshastin-Blewett Pass Improvement.....	\$ 15,259.92		
General expenses.....	52.15		
Engineer's expenses.....	991.21		
	\$ 16,303.28	\$ 16,303.28	\$ 45,000.00

NOTE—C
Contract 4-A—Peshastin-Blewett Pass Improvement.

"The Bond Proposal carried \$45,000.00 for the completion of this work. \$16,303.28 has been spent. Work is uncompleted and only \$13,199.90 available in the Fund on October 31, 1922."

Expenditures for October and September have not been distributed on the Engineer's ledger.

WHERE IS THE OTHER \$15,496.82? Perhaps it helped to build the Sunnyslope bridge—perhaps—but what is the use? All you can be sure of is that it has been spent somewhere other than where you voted to spend it. One of the men who spent several days compiling the above material said, "You might say that the Board of County Commissioners have absolutely broken faith with the people in their expenditure of any money for bridges constructed except that covered by the original resolution voted for by the people, for the reason that certain bridges have been provided for and no other bridge could be constructed with any of the Bond money, therefore the Sunnyslope Bridge, \$36,567.19, and the excess used on Saunders Bridge, \$3,765.06 and the excess, Entiat Bridge, Contract No. 13, \$7,673.53 are all illegal expenditures which should have come from the County Road and Bridge or District Funds."

"Caps are writer's.
To be continued)

BLEWETT POSTMASTER IS DEAD

Chris Peter Dahl, for several years postmaster at Blewett and storekeeper for the Peshastin Lumber & Box Co., died Sunday morning, Dec. 10, 1922, at the Community hospital. Mr. Dahl had been sick for some time, but was brought to the hospital only a few days before his death, which was due to obstruction of the pylorus or lower opening of the stomach. He was 52 years, 4 months and 22 days of age and is survived by his wife and son 13 years of age.

The body was sent to Spokane, the former home of the Dahls, on Monday, at which place the funeral and burial took place.

STEPHEN ELECTED DIRECTOR.

J. Howard Stephen, of Peshastin, was elected a director of the Icicle Irrigation district for a term of three years at the election held Tuesday. We did not learn the vote nor what was cast for the opposition candidate.

There has been a contest on between the upper and lower parts of the district as to improvements and the outcome of these differences is a matter of interest to all. It seems that a get-together party is in order so that the ditch may be put in good condition before the irrigation season is again upon us.

Work is still under way on the big tunnel on the Icicle, but we understand that a long stretch of flume, work on which was suspended a couple months ago, must be replaced or there will be no water for any part of the district.

ATHLETIC ASSN. MEETING.

A meeting of those interested is called for next Monday evening at the usual hour at the Gymnasium for the purpose of reorganizing the athletic association and making plans for basket ball and other sports for the winter.

Al Hoffman, who has been the manager for two years, has had numerous inquiries for games and a fine program can be had if we get going at once.

E. G. Wheeler went to Seattle Tuesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Nash are moving to Fresno, Calif.

Emil Bauman is still working at Blewett, repairing houses and a garage.

First basket ball of the season, Chelan here Saturday night at the gymnasium.

Closing out our entire stock of candies at Christmas, at cost. — Ahlin's Confectionery.

Dr. Laws has been in Seattle for some time with Mrs. Laws, whose condition we understand is worse.

J. B. Huff was called to Spokane Wednesday to testify in the big subornation of perjury case now being tried in that city.

Regular meeting of the Pythian Sisters next Tuesday evening, Dec. 19. Election, initiation and refreshments. All members come.

Mrs. John Ewing received word Tuesday of the death of her sister, Mrs. Alice Brooks, Wabash, Ind. She had recently undergone an operation.

Mrs. Kathyl Gregory was up from Peshastin yesterday doing some shopping and stated that she anticipates going on a visit to Seattle during the holidays.

There ought to be interest in the announcements that Dempsey is ready to meet Willard at any time within six months and that Carpenter and Siki may fight again.

Attorney John P. Matsen is leaving this week for Seattle to work with his brother for a time. He may locate elsewhere or he may return here later on, but in any event he expects to be here off and on until he closes up what business he has on hand here.

An embargo was placed on apples and other perishable freight by the Great Northern on Tuesday. Apples have been arriving in Chicago frozen and the low temperatures through Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota make it extremely hazardous for the roads to attempt to move such freight at this time.

TAX LIMIT LEAGUE IS ORGANIZED

One hundred and fifty taxpayers, representing every section and interest of the state, produced out of their state taxation conference in Tacoma last week the State Tax Limit League and a platform declaring for rigid governmental economy and elimination of several state tax levies, a tax on personal income, a business income tax, a gross earnings tax on all public service corporations, and limitation to 40 mills on a 50 per cent valuation the total tax to be paid by property. The conference heard proposals that a sales tax be adopted, refused the measure.

Represented at the conference were Wash. Coal Producers, Farm Bureau, State Grange, Horticultural ass'n., Berry Growers ass'n., Manuf'rs ass'n., Lumbermen's ass'n., Shingle Manuf. ass'n., Federated Industries of Wash., and the Associated Industries of Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane Tax leagues of almost every county also were represented, and in the meeting were Senate and House leaders, county officials and others.

The following state officers were elected: E. S. Goodwin, Seattle, president; S. C. Sawtelle, Seattle, secretary; L. S. Booth, Seattle, treasurer; trustees at large, John A. Gellatly, Wenatchee; Thomas B. Cole, Bellingham; Julius C. Hubbell, Ellensburg; Harry G. Austin, Tacoma; George F. Meacham, Fred J. Perine, Roy J. Kinneer, Seattle; E. B. Arthaud, Hoquiam.

Vice presidents, who will be identified with local units of the Tax Limit League over the state, were chosen as follows: G. M. Elliott, Tacoma; L. E. Miller, Bellingham; Andrew Danielson, Blaine; Frank Carpenter, Cle Elum; John C. Denny, Everett; E. B. Arthaud, Hoquiam; Nils Anderson, Mabana; J. E. Calder, Montesano; Donald McInnis, Port Angeles; Oscar A. Sword, Port Orchard; D. M. Donnelly, Sedro-Woolley; Alden C. Bayley, Shelton; W. S. McCrea, Spokane; R. D. Nesella, Snohomish; Jud Siler, Vance; C. C. Tuttle, Vancouver; E. C. Burlingame, Walla Walla.

In brief, the program of the State Tax Limit League, adopted at the meeting, proposes as follows:

1. Budget law, with office holder liable on his own personal bond for excess expenditure; requiring county commissioners to annually adopt road building program for ensuing year, which shall not be departed from.
2. Pay scale for work done for municipal bodies shall not exceed pay scale of private contractors.
3. Serial bond retirement plan; compulsory formation of sinking fund to provide for retirement on such bonds according to their terms.
4. Extension of Consolidated Election Law to all counties, as well as those of first class.
5. State's permanent highway levy to be optional with counties and public highway levy repealed, to be replaced by one-cent additional gasoline tax.
6. Repeal of half-mill state levy for capitol buildings; repeal half-mill levy for reclamation fund, this fund to be turned into the general fund, with exception if amount sufficient to maintain hydraulic engineer's office.
7. Consolidation of departments of government, to prevent duplication.
8. State wide school survey to eliminate waste.
9. Reduction if statutory limits on certain millage funds, as illustration: State General—5 to 2 1/2 mills; County Current—8 to 6 mills; Schools—10 to 8 mills; Road and Bridge—4 to 2 mills; Road Districts—10 to 8 mills, depending upon what complete investigation will show to be possible.
10. Retention of fifty per cent valuation basis of assessment.
11. Constitutional convention with amendments submitted to 1924 electorate.
12. Tax on net income earned in the state or elsewhere, \$1,000 exemption single person, \$2,000 married person, \$200 additional for each dependent. Rate on first \$1000, 2 per cent; \$2,000, 3 per cent; \$3,000, 4 per cent; \$4,000, 5 per cent; \$5,000 or up, 6 per cent.
13. Business tax on net incomes, to be offset on personal income tax statement.
14. Gross earnings tax on all public service corporations.
15. Limit of total millage to forty mills on a 50 per cent valuation as a maximum to be levied on real and tangible personal property.

PERSONAL TAX FOR 1923 IS LOWER

World: A total of nearly \$221,000 in personal taxes will be raised during 1923, according to an itemized statement recently completed by County Assessor R. A. Scheble and turned over to the treasurer, who will use the statement as a guide in making out tax statements.

The total personal property tax is a little lower than the total for 1921, about \$238,000 and still lower than for 1920, \$258,000.

Personal property valuations, due to the depreciation of the value of farm products and other personal property at the time the assessments were made in the spring are somewhat lower than in the previous year, and this partly accounts for the lower personal taxes. Cuts were made by the county commissioners in some levies, also.

Wenatchee city personal tax, on a valuation of about \$1,600,000, is about \$29,000 for 1923. For this year, Wenatchee's personal property, valued at \$1,530,000, raised about \$27,000. The city personal tax for the previous year was \$32,000 on a \$1,600,000 valuation.

Chelan's personal property tax for

1923 is \$1,600; Lakeside, \$168; Leavenworth's \$3500; Cashmere, \$3,000. Road district No. 1 will raise \$5,500 in 1923; Road district No. 2 will raise \$5,500; Road District No. 3 will raise \$2,500.

A building fund of \$17,451.90 is to accrue from personal taxes. Last year a building fund of about \$5,000 was raised.

The personal taxes, generally speaking, are about 12 per cent of the total taxes. This ratio will not prevail throughout, however.

K. P.'S ELECT.

At their meeting last Thursday evening the Knights of Pythias elected the following officers for the ensuing term:

C. C.—Herman Howe.
V. C.—H. M. Goff.
Prelate—J. T. Lindley.
M. W.—W. E. Hanson.
K. of R. S.—E. R. McClain.
M. of E.—H. A. Franklin.
M. at A.—H. A. Gartner.
I. G.—J. G. Corbett.
O. G.—Otto Anderson.
Trustees—J. T. Lindley, Butler Sampson, O. A. Lee.

An experienced orchardist recommends cutting off a few of the limbs from each tree in fall so that the mice will have something besides the bark of the trunks of the trees to gnaw on during the winter.

COMMUNITY XMAS TREE ASSURED

The committee in charge of the arrangements announce that there will be a Community Christmas tree at the Community building at 6 o'clock, Sunday evening, Dec. 24. The program will be published next week. Everyone is invited to participate in these festivities.

WORKMAN HURT AT DAM.

Barney Higgins, employed by the Grant-Smith Co., and working at the G. N. dam above town, was severely hurt last Sunday morning when a crane broke. He was brought to town and placed under the care of Dr. Hoxsey at the hospital. One ear had to be stitched on and his back was hurt, so that he was in great pain for a few days, but we understand that he is now easier and rapidly recovering.

Trains were late most of the time during the ten days from Dec. 1 to Monday of this week on account of the snow and storms. Here the yards were filled and a plow was used three different times to clean the main line and sidings. Extra men were in demand Saturday to keep the switches cleared, but they seemed scarce.

DIED IN CALIFORNIA.

Frank Mull received word Tuesday morning of the death of his daughter, Mrs. Frances Anders, at 11:45 Monday night, Dec. 11, 1922, at Oakland, Calif. Mrs. Anders was 34 years of age and is survived by her husband and one son six years old, besides her father and mother and one sister, Mrs. J. A. Nash, of Leavenworth.

The body, accompanied by relatives, is expected to arrive here Saturday and the funeral will take place Monday. According to present plans the funeral will be held at the Methodist church at 1 o'clock Monday afternoon and burial will follow in the Leavenworth cemetery.

C. G. Smyth went to Wenatchee Tuesday to assist Grand Commander Stone in inspecting the Commandery. From there they were to go to Okanogan on a like mission.

We have been having some cold wave this week. Monday the government thermometer registered 19 below as the coldest point and this is a record low point for recent years. Tuesday morning the low point was 18 below and Wednesday morning 17 below. If there is not a change—if it does not warm up more than one degree a day—we shall have a mighty cold winter. Up to this writing we have had 33 inches of snowfall at Leavenworth and there are 18 inches on the ground.