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THE SWISS LIKE THIS COUNTRY

Vanguard of Swiss Settlers
Inspect Big Tract of Land
in Thurston County

PLEASED WITH OUTLOOK

Expert With Colonists Says
The Soil Excels for
Dairy Purposes

OLYMPIA, March 23.—Expressing the opinion that they were more than satisfied with Thurston county as an ideal section for dairying, many of the members of the advance guard of Swiss colonists from Minnesota, who arrived here a few days ago, announced yesterday that they would locate on the Hugh T. Halbert tract, near Olympia. The first inspection of the proposed dairying and cheese-making community by the colonists was unusual in many respects.

Saturday the party was landed on the ground at Bordeaux, on the Milwaukee car in which they made the trip from Minneapolis. Saturday night they built a large camp fire. A majority announced that they would make Thurston county their future home, and plans for clearing the land and putting in crops were discussed.

Will Co-operate in Clearing Land. It was decided to co-operate in clearing the land. It was also decided to carry on diversified farming. After the land is cleared there will be on the ground an expert on grasses, an expert on dairying and an expert on poultry to help the settlers place their land on a paying basis.

Sunday night religious services were conducted at the camp fire by Prof. Charles M. Andrist, of the department of languages of the University of Minnesota.

Grass Expert Pleases. Martin Heinzelman, recognized as one of the greatest experts on grasses in Minnesota, and former superintendent of Itasca park, at Arago, Minn., who, with Mrs. Heinzelman, was a member of the party as a sightseer, announced yesterday that he had changed his former plans and would locate in this state as a member of the new community within two weeks.

"The soil excels anything in the East and is as good as any in the Middle West," he said. "It should produce wonderful crops. From a dairy standpoint it is ideal. I have never examined heartier grasses and the climate is mild, permitting out-door grazing all the year round. One thing that attracted my attention was the fact that the medium red grass grows as large as the mammoth in the Middle West. There is also an abundance of water on all the land."

Newcomers Looking for Stock. Many of the members of the new colony spent yesterday looking for cattle with which to stock their sections. Today they will visit various tracts that are being cleared under modern methods for the purpose of getting information.

"We hope to make this new colony one of the best dairying communities in the Northwest," said Mr. Halbert yesterday. "The people interested are all workers and are well pleased with the land. Until the Panama canal is opened it will be possible to have colonists come right through from New York, without change of cars, which will prove a great inducement during the period of developing this land."

RAILROAD MAN TO SPEAK TO ABERDEEN'S MEN'S CLUB

C. P. Bissett, right of way and tax agent of the Oregon-Washington Railway & Navigation company, has accepted the invitation of the Men's club of this city to deliver an address the evening of April 10 at the First Presbyterian church.

Mr. Bissett stated his topic will be either "Abraham Lincoln" or "Fidelity." His Lincoln address has won the railroad man fame, but, it is said, his "Fidelity" is just as excellent, and it is stated the latter subject will be selected. Mr. Bissett is perhaps as forcible speaker as ever appeared in this section and he combines eloquence and scholarly attainments.

MILITIA INSTRUCTOR HERE

Lieut. H. Adrian McClure, United States navy, in charge of the hydrographic survey for this district, was on the Harbor last night. He came down on matters in connection with the naval militia for which he is instructor and inspector.

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THE COUNCIL AND THE FIRE LIMITS

Removal of Building Within
Limits Creates Needless
Discussion

MOVE MAKES FOR SAFETY

Earth for Fill District not in
River. Street Improve-
ments Protested

The city council was unduly exercised Wednesday night over the removal of the Fred Matthews frame building from one point in the fire limits to another, still within those limits. Nothing appears to be opposed to such a removal in the fire limit ordinance, nor did it appear that the fire hazard in the district was increased by the removal of those buildings. As a matter of fact, the Matthews building was taken from an extra hazardous location to one of comparative isolation and is now a very slight menace to its neighborhood compared with what it was on G street. Its removal will mean the erection of a concrete building on G street which will create a fire break in one of the most hazardous fire points in the city. An attempt to "abate the nuisance," as was talked of is liable to involve the city in needless litigation.

The city attorney reported that the bonding company, which will complete the work in Fill District No. 2, had a representative in the city preparing to take up the work, and that he reported there was not sufficient earth available in the Wishkah river to finish the fill, and that they may have to sluice earth from Terrace Heights.

A protest against the proposed improvement of Newell street provoked a sharp discussion, the property owners claiming they were unable to stand the expense at this time. The council will visit the street in a body Sunday morning to examine the situation.

The Barber Asphalt Co. receded from their former position, and agreed to accept six per cent warrants, instead of eight per cent bonds demanded.

The removal of earth from Oak street was discussed, and the matter laid over until the next meeting, to permit E. C. Finch to be heard on the subject.

A petition for a 20-foot concrete roadway on Thornton street between Sixth and Fifth streets, and a protest, were referred.

Liquor licenses were granted to W. H. Pierre, the O'Hare Liquor company and the Aberdeen Brewing company, the two latter being wholesale licenses, and the first issued since the new ordinance was adopted.

An ordinance was passed fixing Tuesday, April 7, as municipal election day, the voting hours between 8 a. m. and 8 p. m. and appointing election officers. Precincts having less than 100 voters will not be entitled to clerks, the judges filling these offices.

Councilman Myles announced that the street committee would look over the South Side road Sunday and report next Wednesday night.

An ordinance was introduced and passed to third reading, licensing moving picture operators and creating a board of examiners. The annual license is fixed at \$5 and \$2.50 for renewals.

The contract for the planking of Henry street was awarded to John A. Nordgren at \$1.47 for the 16-foot elevated roadway.

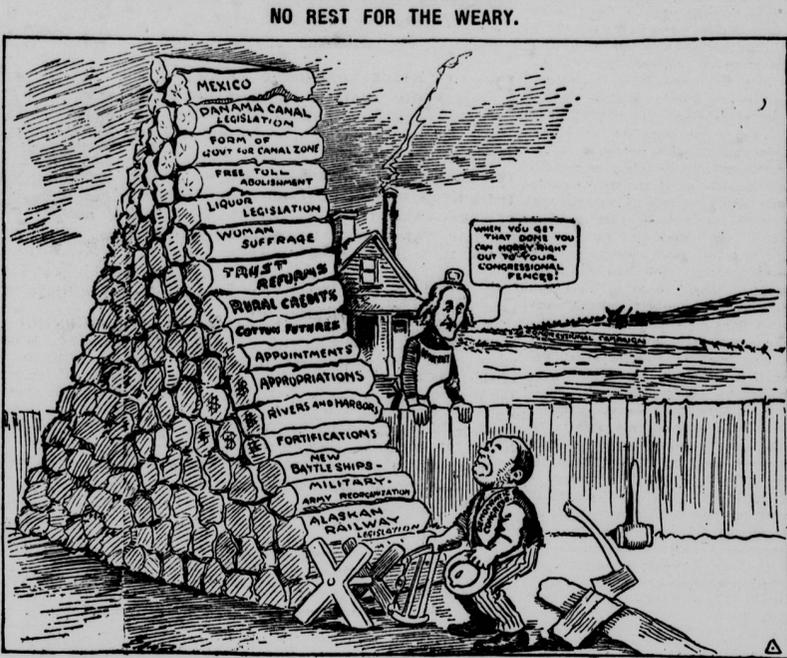
FATAL ACCIDENT.

Earle E. Sprague, a Logger, Meets
Death From Falling Tree Near
Elma Tuesday Afternoon.

Earle E. Sprague, a logger 54 years of age, was crushed to death Tuesday afternoon at one of the camps of the Mack Logging Co., near Elma. Sprague, who was a sawyer, walked behind a stump to escape a falling tree, when the tree struck the stump, the top struck him, killing him instantly.

Sprague, who was well and favorably known on Grays Harbor had made his home in Aberdeen for several years, and was an active member of the Aberdeen Lodge of Odd Fellows. The body is at Elma, pending instructions from his sisters, one of who lives at Plainwell, Mich., and the other at San Antonio, Texas, who have been wired by W. H. Pearson, secretary of the lodge.

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—Bartholomew in Minneapolis Journal.

OIL IS FOUND IN TENINO WELL

Pumping Well is Struck at
Depth of 775 Feet, in
Well Near Tenino.

WILL SINK WELL DEEPER

After Drilling Six Weeks,
Grand Mound Oil Field is
Practically Proved

OLYMPIA, March 26.—"There is no longer any doubt about our well being in a real oil field. We are not going to stop now, but experienced oil men who are on the ground say that if we did stop now and prepare the present well for pumping, we would have a well producing from 25 to 100 barrels of oil a day."

This is part of a statement made last night by long distance telephone by Emery C. Williamson, secretary-treasurer of the Crescent Oil company, who spent yesterday at the well near Tenino.

"The drill has struck and gone through a second stratum of oil sand. This was at the 775-foot level, and the sand stratum is 30 feet through, though the first one was only six feet in depth. It seems to those of us who took samples of the sand and floating oil that this sand contains 25 times as much oil as did the first stratum."

"We have a real commercial well just as soon as we want to put in a charge of nitro-glycerine to tear out a cave in this sand stratum so that the oil can collect, but we believe that farther down there is oil in larger quantities, and we will be surprised if a gusher is not struck. We will continue to drill, and if we exhaust our resources before we strike anything further we can come back at anytime and make a 'pumper' out of the well to take the oil from the sand that we have just passed through."

Secretary Williamson said that after passing through the second sand bed, four feet of lime stone was drilled through, and that the drill had continued about 10 feet into shale foundation again at about 9 o'clock last night. Mr. Williamson felt that there was no basis on which to speculate as to the formation next to be struck.

The Crescent Oil company has been at work since February 12. Lincoln's birthday. On that date the machinery was in shape and the first drilling done. Up to the present time the company has had exceptional luck. Only three or four times has the drill got out of true and on each occasion it was due to striking of fissures in the sand stone.

FOOD INSPECTION

J. J. Higgins, state food commissioner; W. H. Abrams, food inspector, and Miss A. B. Wimple, bakery inspector, spent several days in the city this week, inspecting the various places where food is sold, and completed the work yesterday afternoon. Mr. Higgins was a former resident of Elma, and was editor of the Chronicle in 1897 and 1898.

Send the twice-a-week Herald to your inquiring masters friends.

Taxpayers' Meeting

The Aberdeen Taxpayers will hold an
adjourned Mass Meeting next Monday
night, at 8 o'clock, in the city hall, to hear
the report of the committee on permanent
organization.

Every taxpayer in Aberdeen who can
possibly do so, is urged to attend this meet-
ing. Ladies are especially invited.

SAW MILLS FILE NEW TAX SUITS

Nine Mill Companies Ask Re-
duction of Taxes, Alleg-
ing Over Valuation

MONTESANO, March 26.—Nine mills companies on Grays Harbor have filed new suits in the superior court, involving about \$16,000 in taxes, alleged to be overcharged by reason of excessive valuation. The suits were brought by Bridges & Bruener and Hogan & Graham of Aberdeen.

Along with the complaints, in each case, is a motion asking that a restraining order be issued stopping the treasurer from turning the accounts over to the sheriff for collection and asking that the treasurer be ordered to accept a tender of the amount of taxes the mill companies concede to be due during the pending of this trial. These motions are to be heard Saturday.

The concerns suing the county are assessed on the books a total of \$37,972.36 in taxes, and their combined tender is \$22,092.77. Names of the various plaintiffs and the amount each concedes to be due the county as taxes on the levy in force, are: National Lumber & Manufacturing company, \$5337; Grays Harbor Commercial company, \$5047; Federal Mill company, \$1282; Donovan Lumber company, \$1347; S. E. Slade Lumber company, \$2772; Aberdeen Lumber & Shingle company, \$1447; Western Lumber company, \$602; Bay City Lumber company, \$2094.

JEFFERSON DAY
Chehalis County Democrats Will Celebrate Anniversary of Patron
Saint on Grays Harbor

The executive committee of the Democratic party of Chehalis County, and the members of the democratic county central committee from Aberdeen and Hoquiam, will meet next Tuesday night, March 31, at Hotel Washington to plan for the celebration of Jefferson Day, which occurs next month. The annual meeting of the party organization will be held and a banquet spread, either at Aberdeen or Hoquiam, as may be decided at the meeting Tuesday night. The by-laws call for the annual meeting at Montesano, but the democrats of the county seat thought a larger attendance would be secured on the harbor, and waived their right in the interest of a big time.

FISHING FOR TROUT IS SET BACK A MONTH

The open season for trout fishing will not commence this year until May 1, instead of April 1, as formerly, and Game Warden Esses announces that he and his deputies will see that the law of close season in April is rigidly enforced.

POWER LIFE BOAT

N. P. Bryan, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, was notified yesterday that the national life saving bureau had shipped a power life boat to the station at Westport. The boat is the result of a request made by the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce.

COST OF LIVING COMING DOWN

Comparison of Cost of Staple
Food Articles Shows Re-
duction in Six Months

TO REFOREST LANDS

State Forester Would Reforest
Cut Lands that are Un-
fit for Cultivation

OLYMPIA, March 22.—Encouraging indications that the cost of living, which for the past decade has been constantly soaring skyward, has started to come down, are found by the state board of control, which for the past week has been making semi-annual purchases of supplies for the 11 state institutions.

As the state secures competitive bids on all supplies and buys by wholesale, lowest possible prices are obtainable. The board of control finds that the price of practically all food supplies has decreased from the last semi-annual purchases, made September 15, 1913. In some articles, like butter, the decreased price is attributable to the coming of the summer months, but in most cases the decrease is taken as attributable to other causes than the weather.

Comparison is made of the prices at which the state bought eight staple articles of food six months ago and this month, the prices, in each case, being for delivery at the western Washington hospital for the insane:

	Sept., 1913.	March, 1914
Bacon	\$0.1880	\$0.1625
Beans .....	.0580	.0500
Butter .....	.3300	.2875
Flour	3.9000	3.8600
Ham .....	.1800	.1700
Rollad oats ..	.0275	.0266
Rice .....	.0415	.0405
Sugar .....	.0475	.0428

That this general decrease in prices is not confined to Western Washington is shown by a comparison of the prices paid for the same articles delivered at the Eastern Washington hospital for the insane:

	Sept., 1913.	March, 1914
Bacon	\$0.1900	\$0.1755
Beans .....	.0550	.0550
Butter .....	.3550	.2650
Flour	3.7500	3.6300
Ham .....	.1800	.1650
Rollad oats ..	.0275	.0255
Rice .....	.0466	.0400
Sugar .....	.0525	.0475

Reforest Logged Lands

Some of the largest owners of logged-off lands in this state have received letters from State Forester E. W. Ferris, inviting them to deed to the state such portions of their holdings as will be unfit for cultivation.

Mr. Ferris' object is to reforest these lands. Private owners cannot afford to hold them 50 or 60 years and pay taxes on it, while waiting for a second crop of timber, but as the state pays no taxes, it can afford to carry out a reforestation plan that will insure the presence of the lumber industry 50 years hence.

Promises of some donations to the state already have been received. No land that is suitable for cultivation is sought.

In his letter Forester Ferris says, in part:

"It may seem to some that we are exercising a good deal of nerve in putting this proposition before you, but we believe it is for the best interest of the state, and it will take nerve, and lots of it, to get back upon this logged off worthless land a second crop of timber to take the place of that which has been taken therefrom. This state should never be without a goodly supply of timber, and we are asking the loyal citizens who are the owners of tracts which are suitable only for reforestation to give to the state at least a portion of such tract, and start the reforestation ball rolling, which will accumulate as it travels along, and when it arrives at its final resting place, it will have attained such magnitude as will make the donors proud of the fact that they had a part in its making. Let us carefully harvest our present crop of timber and when that is gone may we have seen to it that another is ready for the axe and saw."

NEW CLUB FORMED

A new social club to be called the Eureka, was organized at A. O. U. hall Wednesday evening with the following officers: E. M. Smith, president; William A. Clark, vice-president; Carl Springer, secretary-treasurer. The real launching of the club is to be celebrated at a banquet to be given some evening next week not yet selected.

HIGH COST OF GOVERNMENT

Forms Topic of Discussion
by Chamber of Commerce
Last Evening

INCREASE UNREASONABLE

Great Interest Shown in State,
County, City and School
Expenditures

The meeting of the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce at Hotel Washington last night was one of the best in several years. About 80 representative citizens were present, all enjoyed the famous cuisine of the Washington and were interested in the informal discussions that followed. A male quartette rendered several songs, one of them a skit on County Assessor R. A. Wiley and other officials that brought down the house.

Tax Rate Was the Topic

The tax rate, the absorbing topic in Chehalis county to-day, was thoroughly discussed from almost every angle, and is certain to have accomplished a good purpose. Secretary Bryan called attention to the statements of dues he had mailed, and requested prompt remittance. The dues are payable annually in advance and are but \$6.00 a year for individuals and \$12.00 for corporations. President Mumaw appointed the following committee to rustle new members: Phillip A. Bertrand, John W. Huff, Russell Mack, N. A. Burcombe and R. C. Vandervort.

Assessor Wiley explained clearly and at some length the various items of expenditures, state, county, road and school, that totaled about \$490,000 for Aberdeen, out of a total of \$1,516,115.95 for the entire county. He invited questions concerning any of the tax matters with which his office has to do and replied to quite a number that shed considerable light on the subject, concluding with showing where in his opinion the levy should, and may be, reduced about \$300,000 next year.

The matter of schools expense was taken up by J. C. Smith, a member of the board of education, who explained the increased cost of education of late years. Being questioned as to the increase of over 50 per cent in the past six years, he cited the modern methods installed in that period all of which cost money. School expenditures were discussed by Dr. Hopkinson, R. A. Wiley, J. W. Young and J. J. Carney.

President Mumaw quoted tax figures from a number of cities in Ohio, which clearly proved that excessive public expenditures were by no means confined to the Pacific Coast. In Ohio, he stated, the assessed valuations were on a 100 per cent basis, and the limit of the tax levy was 15 mills. This it will be remembered is under a new constitution but recently adopted, and some municipalities were experiencing rough sledding in getting along on this levy, but they have to do it.

J. J. Carney took up the matter of increased public expenditures, state, county, municipal and school, during the past six years, showing that Chehalis county was paying \$188,480.09 more state taxes this year than we did in 1908; that the sum required this year for roads and bridges had increased 243 per cent in the past six years, and that during that period this county had raised by taxation, for roads and bridges the enormous sum of \$1,352,746.00. That municipal taxes had grown in that period from \$129,711 to \$320,284, and that the total taxes had increased 158 per cent.

Mr. Carney concluded by calling attention to the mass meeting held last week for the purpose of organizing a Taxpayer's League, and invited all present to attend the meeting next Monday night, in the city hall, to effect a permanent organization.

A. C. Girard talked on tax levies, and told the meeting how Chehalis county was being made the goat by the state board of equalization, through the failure of the citizens of this county to attend the meetings of this board and to back up the county officials in their efforts for a square deal.

John O'Hare suggested that steps be taken to have the laws so changed as to permit the cities to use a portion of the road and bridge taxes paid by them within city limits. The suggestion was made after Assessor Wiley had quoted the sum paid into that fund this year by Aberdeen, as about \$35,000.

L. A. Nauveau, of Seattle, a dis-

(Continued on page 4.)