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AMADOR LEDGER

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FRIDAY.....DECEMBER 30, 1910

THE NEW REVENUE SYSTEM.

The adoption of the constitutional amendment separating state and county taxation is already causing much discussion as to the effect it will have in the increase or curtailment of revenue for county purposes. The next assessment of property will be made in conformity with the new order of things, and financial solons are busy preparing a bill to be passed by the incoming legislature to carry out the provisions of the amendment. Under the new method certain classes of property, such as railroads, telegraph and telephone lines, electric light and power companies, express and banking corporations, will be taxed for state purposes, and the state government will have to depend for support upon the revenue raised from these sources, without any general levy upon all taxable property, as has heretofore been the case. The county governments will be maintained by a tax levied upon the balance of the property left after these state taxed items are eliminated. It is evident that this radical change in the revenue laws will bear very unequally upon different counties, according to the value of state-taxed properties within their respective borders. Some counties in which the proportion of state-class property is above the average will be adversely affected, while those counties where the proportion is below the average will be benefited by the new departure. To reduce this disturbance of financial conditions to a minimum, at least until the new system becomes fairly established, the state will make good any loss sustained by a county for a certain period—five years we understand. How the state will be reimbursed for this liberality does not appear, as there is no provision that the counties financially helped by the change shall divy up their gains for a corresponding period.

How is Amador county likely to be affected by the new deal—adversely or otherwise?—may be asked. The tax rate for state and county purposes has averaged in the neighborhood of \$2 on the \$100 for a number of years past. Of this levy about one-fifth has been represented by the state tax. It therefore follows that the county can stand a reduction of one-fifth in its assessment roll without suffering any loss of revenue for local purposes. That is to say, a tax levy of \$2 on the \$100 on an assessment roll four-fifths as large as at present would leave us practically unchanged. With an assessment roll of between five and six million dollars under the old regime, a shrinkage of a million dollars in valuation would not disturb the county finances. It is difficult to approximately estimate the value of Amador county property that will be set off for state assessment. The Pacific Gas and Electric Company's holdings are assessed for about half a million dollars. The railroad and other corporation property included in the state class will easily, all told, bring the sum total over the million dollar mark. But a portion of this property, classed as "inoperative," will still be retained for county assessment. How much will be so held will depend upon legislative action defining the scope and meaning of inoperative property.

It is being heralded throughout the state that at a recent meeting of county assessors an important point was gained for the counties by having certain portions of corporation property included in the "inoperative" class, and therefore assessable by the county assessors. While this action is doubtless merely advisory to the legislature in the framing of a bill on the subject, still it indicates a likely source of contest between the state and county authorities over the new revenue system. With the division of the corporate property into "operative" and "inoperative," the first named assessable by the state and the latter by the county, the battle will be on for each side to get as much as possible of this property included in its respective class. To swell the "inoperative" column will mean more pickings for the county assessors and increased revenue or a reduced tax levy for the county. The capture of recruit property for the "operative" column will mean either enhanced income for the state or a reduction of taxes for the corporations concerned. This dual authority seems a vulnerable feature, likely to give birth to considerable litigation before it is definitely settled by the courts, and several years will doubtless pass ere the new law gets down to a smooth working basis.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY

Reported weekly for the Ledger

A Successful Land-Protector—The Eye Sheath of Birds—Earthquake Forestry—The Iron That Grows—Earth Tremors from Changing Air Pressure—Engine Economy—Baking by Steam Without Pressure—Electrocution—Varying Influence of Light.

A flexible armor of concrete bricks strung on wires is a novel anchor for a sand deposit, and is a French solution of the problem of preventing the washing away of river and lake shores and even the shifting of dunes exposed to the ocean. The bricks, weighing ten pounds each, are pierced with two holes each for the passage of galvanized iron or copper wires. The slope being properly graded, a horizontal wire cable is stretched along its bottom, wires are attached to this, and the bricks are shipped upon the wires so as to lie close together in regular rows. The bricks can be made and laid rapidly, the gravelly sand of the locality being used with the cement. A number of applications of this method of land protection have been made in France, and have successfully resisted water, frost and ocean gales for two or three years. The sheathing of the Soulac dune, soon to be extended 3500 feet, is now 900 feet long and 20 feet high. The first part was completed early in 1909, and has withstood some bad storms.

The "parasol" with which the eyes of such birds as owls, eagles and cocks are protected, has been the subject of recent experiments by French naturalists. This is a black, opaque membrane attached to the retina near the optic nerve, and, while it closes into a thin line that does not interfere with vision, it opens so as to completely cover the retina and protect it from strong light. The eagle that boldly faces the sun sees nothing, for his curious eye parasol is spread.

To prevent earthquakes seems to be the most surprising of the many reasons for restoring forests. It is suggested that in such localities as Messina and southern Italy, cutting away the forests has loosened the soil, and this may have given rise to faults and added to the earthquake disturbances or their effects. If this theory is correct, of course replanting the trees should again bind the loose material with roots, giving the surface its old time greater stability.

Since the growth of cast iron under repeated heatings first attracted attention some years ago, various explanations have been offered. Superheated steam causes high pressure steam valves to become enlarged, and in the great Baltimore fire cast-iron beams were so changed by the intense heat as to distort and ruin masonry building, while the buildings in which cast steel had been used were not affected. Repeated heatings cause cast-iron bars to become porous and cracked. Prof. H. Carpenter, a British metallurgist, explains that the growth has now been definitely ascribed to the chemical reaction that takes place between the flame gases and the constituents of the iron, especially to the change of silicon to silica, and also to the reaction between the flame gases and the gases originally dissolved in the iron. To obtain iron that will not grow it has been necessary to give care to its composition. The silicon must be removed as nearly as possible, and all carbon contained must be in chemical combination with the iron, none being present in the free state.

Changes of pressure over the great areas of high and low barometer that persist for long periods over much of the earth's surface are regarded by Dr. Otto Klotz as a cause of earth vibration, or microseisms. The creation or alteration of these areas shifts a vast load, and may set up vibrations in blocks of the earth's crust covering tens of thousands of square miles. Differences of temperature or the transient differences due to the passage of storm or fair weather areas would have little influence. The nature of the vibrations produced is possibly dependent on or modified by marked geological configuration, and when once set up the vibrations many continue long after the cause has disappeared.

Though aeroplane engines represent a gain in lightness, they show a loss in fuel economy. Such is the result of tests carried out at the National Physical Laboratory in England, where it has been learned that the Gnome engine, so famous for lightness per horse-power, uses 0.89 pounds of fuel per brake horse-power hour, while a good automobile engine runs on 0.54 pound.

As water is heated above 212 deg. F., the pressure rises very rapidly with the increasing temperature of

the steam, but the new method of superheating without the water may give steam a temperature higher than that of red-hot iron with a pressure perhaps not exceeding a pound per square inch. This method has been applied to heating bakers' ovens. Superheated steam has been used in the old way for baking, but the temperature of 700 deg. or 800 deg. or more develops a pressure that may reach 2,000 pounds per square inch, and as the steam-pipes passing around the oven become rusted and worn there is much risk from bursting pipes. By the new plan, the steam is first generated in a small boiler. It is then passed through a number of pipes in a furnace, and is there superheated to 1000 deg. before entering the pipes of the oven. In the process of baking only a part of the heat is given off, the steam being left sufficiently hot for boiling and other purposes before it condenses again to water. Steam superheated in this way, being safe and economical, is recommended for a variety of uses.

Considering the curious fact that an electric shock of 100 volts is sometimes fatal, while currents of 1000 volts do not always kill, a British Medical Association paper points out that the effects depend upon many factors. The volume, or amperage, of the current as well as its tension may count. The character of the current—whether it is direct or alternating—may play some part, and the duration of the shock and the point of application may signify much. Then, too, the resistance of the skin is not always the same. One individual may differ greatly from another in susceptibility, and even the condition of the mind is found to have an influence, as a person prepared to receive a shock is less liable to be affected than one receiving it unexpectedly.

The action of light on plants has been shown by Combes, a French botanist, to vary with its intensity, as well as with the age and character of the plant. A strong light favors the development of large stores of reserve material, as in the tubers of the potato and the root of the beet, and a weaker light tends instead to promote the growth of vegetative organs.

End's Winter's Troubles

To many, winter is a season of trouble. The frost bitten toes and fingers, chapped hands and lips, chilblains, cold sores, red and rough skin, prove this. But such troubles fly before Bucklen's Arnica Salve. A trial convinces. Greatest healer of burns, boils, piles, cuts, sores, eczema and sprains. Only 25c at Spagnoli's drug store.

Land Office Rules.

New rules of practice governing cases before the United States local land office, the general land office and the department of the interior have been approved by secretary Ballinger. The new rules which will go into effect February 1st, are intended to simplify practice, to avoid delay and to reduce the number of successive appeals. Under the present system it is said the multitude of appeals give advantage to a contestant of wealth over one who is poor. A contest against an entry or claim of record, under the new rules, can only be instituted by a person who seeks to acquire title to or claims an interest in the land involved, and the ground of the contest must be based on matters not disclosed by the records of the land department.—Citizen.

Will Promote Beauty

Women desiring beauty get wonderful help from Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It banishes pimples, skin eruptions, sores and boils. It makes the skin soft and velvety. It glorifies the face. Cures sore eyes, cold sores, cracked lips, chapped hands. Best for burns, scalds, fever sores, cuts, bruises and piles. 25c at Spagnoli's drug store

Will of F. W. Zeile Filed for Probate

The will of F. W. Zeile, formerly one of the leaders in San Francisco banking circles, has been filed for probate. It leaves an estate valued at \$200,000 to the immediate relatives. Mr Zeile died December 3, 1910. His will bears the date May 18, 1909. Miss Marion Zeile is named as executrix without bonds. She is heir to one-third of the estate. The remainder is divided between Mrs Ida May Zeile, the testator's widow, and Miss Ruth Zeile, a daughter. For the past several years Mr Zeile was an invalid and took no active part in business. The greater part of his fortune was invested in real estate in the Sacramento Valley. Most of the money was made in banking and in the warehouse business.—Argonaut.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

JACKSON CLEANING WORKS



Ladies and Gents garments cleaned and pressed



High Grade Suits to order at living prices



Winter Overcoats at very cheap prices

Thos. J. Earle
90 Main Street Jackson

DORNAN'S

Dr. A. Reed Shoes On Sale Here. These Shoes are Cushion Soled.

FOWNES KID GLOVES ARE WARRANTED

NEMO Corset Leads ALL Others for Style and Comfort. No Other Corset Reduces Tall or Medium Stout Figures More Effectively and so Completely.

I am Exclusive Agent for These Goods and Will Gladly Show all Who Call. Their True Merits.

DORNAN'S
23 MAIN ST. JACKSON

NATIONAL HOTEL

D. S. and H. S. Mason, Prop's.

BEST MEALS 35 & 50 CENTS

Fine Sample Rooms for Commercial Travelers - - Stage Office for all points - - Open day and night

Jackson, - Amador Co., - Cal.

CLEAN ROOMS * * *

*** * * ELECTRIC LIGHTS**

New Management

Globe Hotel

W. O. Green & Son, Prop's

Board and Lodging at Reasonable Rates. Sample Rooms for Commercial Travelers. All Stages Stop at This Hotel

JACKSON
Amador Co., Calif.

Amador Hotel

J. M. Coffman, Prop.

Board by Day, Week or Month

Table always supplied with the very best in the market

SAMPLE ROOMS

For Commercial Travellers

Opp. Livery Stable Amador City
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FOREST HOUSE

W. Easton, Prop.

First Class Accommodation
Commercial Sample Rooms

Special Attention to
Transient Patrons

PLYMOUTH

AMADOR, - CO., - CALIF.

Taylor & Podesta, Prop's Phone Main 25

Enterprise Livery Stable

Particular attention Paid to Commercial Travelers and Franchises Customers

Four-in-hands Suresy Saddle Horses Pole and single Buggies Rates Fair

Main Street, - - - Jackson
Amador County, Cal.

Plymouth Livery
W. J. Nunnis Prop.
Reasonable Prices
ymouth, Cal.

Cain's Wife

"I never discuss marriage," said the late Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, to the Womans' Companion, "without thinking of an old colored preacher in my state who was addressing his dark-skinned congregation, when a white man rose in the back of the building. "Mr Preacher," said the white man. "Sir to you," said the parson. "Mr Preacher, you are talking about Cain, and you say he got married in the land of Nod, after he killed Abel. But the Bible only mentions Adam and Eve as being on the earth at that time. Who, then, did Cain marry?" "The colored preacher snorted with unfeigned contempt. "Huh!" he said. "You hear dat, brederen an' sisters? You hear dat fool question I am axed? Cain, he went to de land o' Nod, just as de Good Book tells us, an' in de land o' Nod Cain gits so lazy an' so shiftless dat he up an' marries a gal o' one o' dem no 'count white trash families dat de inspired apostle didn't consider fittin' to mention in de Holy Word."

Baby won't suffer five minutes with croup if you apply Dr. Thomas' Eclectic Oil at once. It acts like magic.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION—02054

Department of the Interior.
U. S. Land Office at Sacramento, California, November 21, 1910.

Notice is hereby given that DAVID RHODES, of Defender, California, who, on March 3, 1905, made H. E. No 7796, for W 1/2 of SW 1/4 Section 1, and SE 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 2, Township 7 N., Range 13 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final five year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the U. S. Commissioner for Amador County, at his office in Jackson, California, on the 4th day of January, 1911.

Claimant names as witnesses: Samuel Lessley and J. H. Campbell, of Volcano, Calif., Fayette Mace and F. B. Joyce, of Defender, Calif.

JOHN F. ARMSTRONG,
no25 Register.

ANY LADY can easily make from \$18.00 to \$25.00 per week working for me quietly in her own home locality. This is a bona fide offer—one which will pay you to investigate, even if you can only spare two hours per day. No investment required. Turn your spare time into money. Write me at once for particulars. Address MARY B. TAYLOR, Box, 39 Woman's Building Joliet, Illinois.