

CARBON COUNTY'S BONDED DEBT ONE-THIRD OF LIMIT

THE HERALD-REPUBLICAN STORY.

The Sun is this week in receipt of a letter from Hon. David Mattson, secretary of state of Utah, a member of the state road commission and a pronounced good roads enthusiast. Portions of the communication from the secretary of state to The Sun are given herewith: "I am enclosing a clipping from the Herald-Republican, dated August 26, 1916, which shows a table prepared by me and from which you will see that Carbon county is bonded for \$191,990 only. Under the new assessed valuation Carbon county is entitled to bond for \$311,329.15. The state is bonded for \$2,860,000, while under the new assessed valuation the state limit is \$7,986,992.02. I compiled these figures with a view of showing the amount of money available from the counties and the state, through bonding, for the building of permanent state roads.

"The state road commission is very much in favor of permanent road construction, and according to the provisions of the act recently passed by congress which provides for federal aid for rural post roads, the state can receive such aid only for permanent road construction and upon expending 50 per cent of the amount appropriated by the government. A cheaply constructed earth road is entirely inadequate to meet the demands of travel since the use of motor vehicles has become so common, and it is, therefore, little less than a waste of money to construct anything except a hard surface road, and this can only be done by expending a large amount of money, which must be obtained through the bonding of the state and its several counties.

"What might also be said in favor of bonding for permanent state roads is the fact that if permanent roads are properly constructed they will last for fifty years, and their cost will be distributed through the entire life of the road. Realizing that since the motor vehicle has come in direct competition with the railroads in handling freight and passengers, it is an important to develop the roads as it is to extend railroads, and knowing full well that the people must be awakened to the need for permanent roads, and that such awakening can come only through the columns of the local papers in the state, I am sending you this clipping and these facts."

The greatest opportunity ever offered the state of Utah for building good roads and development of its territory thereby is offered through placing the state on a cash valuation basis for assessment purposes, according to conclusions drawn by David Mattson, secretary of state, from figures compiled in his office showing how the cash value system has increased the bonding capacity of the state and of every county in the state. One effect of the cash value assessment plan has been, through the increase of valuations, to more than double the maximum of bonded indebtedness provided by the constitution for the state and the various counties.

With the state on a cash value basis, state bonds may be issued to a maximum of \$7,986,992.02 under the 1916 valuation, and the maximum indebtedness which may be incurred by the various counties reaches \$10,649,322.70 in the aggregate. The total bonded indebtedness of the state is \$2,860,000. Bonded indebtedness of the counties, so far as could be learned from reports received at Mattson's office, totals \$742,500. Thus the counties may issue bonds aggregating almost \$10,000,000 and the state can still bond itself for approximately \$5,000,000, making a total which may be raised through bond issues of approximately \$15,000,000.

GREAT MILEAGE POSSIBLE.

"If the state and the various counties, working together on a co-operative plan of highway construction, issue the bonds they are now empowered to authorize, hundreds of miles of hard surface roads could be built," says Mattson. "The subject is one that merits the closest consideration. It is now within our power to open up the vast undeveloped areas of the state with adequate transportation facilities.

"Take the Uintah Basin, for instance. With the bonded indebtedness of the state and the various counties together now in excess, a hard surface road could be built into that part of the state and the transportation problem for that section would be solved. There would be no need then for the construction of a railroad. With a permanent hard surface road to travel on, automobiles and motor trucks carrying passengers and freight could make the trip to the Basin on regular schedule. Millions of acres of land that now lie idle in that part of the state would immediately be brought under cultivation and the increased valuation of property which would result would soon repay the state and counties interested for their bonds.

"Another advantage is that the transportation companies would be formed with Utah capital. The money paid to them would stay in the state. Gasoline transportation is here and it has come to stay. In some parts of this state gasoline vehicles carrying freight and passengers are in regular service and earning a profit for their owners even in competition with railway lines. The state of Utah has today the finest kind of an opportunity to take advantage of this new means of transportation to open up its isolated valleys.

BIG ISSUES WITHIN REACH.

"With the state and counties working together we could now issue about \$15,000,000 worth of bonds. Figuring the cost at \$10,000 a mile, that sum would build fifteen hundred miles of hard surface road, which would open to motor traffic every isolated section of the state. The resulting increase in assessed valuations would immediately increase our assessed valuations on property benefited by those roads to such an extent that our bonding capacity would be more than doubled and paying the interest on the bonds would not even be a burden."

Mattson's table, showing the bonding capacity of the state and the various counties, was compiled after he had carried out the changes in county valuations ordered by the state board of equalization. The clerk of each county was asked to report the amount of bonded indebtedness of his county and nearly all responded. Where no response was received the report of that county made two years ago was used. Difference between the outstanding bonded indebtedness and the maximum of authorized bonded indebtedness represents the amount of bonds each county may yet issue.

VALUATIONS OF THE COUNTIES.

COUNTIES	Assessed valuation	Maximum bonded indebtedness authorized	Bonded indebtedness	Amount available for bonding
Box Elder	28,784,389	103,260	28,947,619	175,000
CACHE	23,606,474	119,162	23,725,637	**22,000
CARBON	15,430,653	185,355	15,606,008	101,000
DAVIS	13,103,398	22,217	13,125,605	392,312.10
Duchesne	3,946,546	80,748	4,027,294	80,546.00
EMERY	4,166,743	16,154	4,182,897	36,000
GARFIELD	7,253,271	3,233,271	10,486,542	45,067.92
Grand	4,290,910	64,327	4,355,237	29,000
Jefferson	2,804,150	142,384	2,946,534	118,930.68
Kane	11,248,144	91,589	11,339,733	238,527.68
Kane	2,251,826	5,540	2,257,366	23,207.52
Millard	11,452,052	176,723	11,628,776	**
Morgan	4,468,541	44,309	4,512,850	2,000
Platte	5,594,304	42,267	5,636,571	38,731.42
Ritch	2,249,692	29,274	2,278,967	40,478.34
San Juan	1,791,148	36,870	1,828,018	** 14,500
Salt Lake	208,579,444	326,819,444	326,000,000	4,786,388.36
Sevier	11,011,518	168,887	11,180,405	222,610.10
Utah	9,748,105	189,064	9,937,169	189,742.25
Wasatch	12,212,770	12,212,770	244,275.46	302,181.44
Weber	14,792,091	316,992	15,109,083	116,046.86
Woods	5,548,466	152,623	5,701,089	78,140.34
Yuba	59,597,378	150,429	59,747,807	**124,000
Wasatch	4,246,773	84,514	4,331,287	86,426.74
Washington	1,986,259	11,896,259	13,882,518	28,825.72
Wayne	922,697	36,421	959,118	19,982.28
Wayne	45,461,726	31,320	45,493,046	909,859.12
States	\$370,109,701	\$2,156,424	\$372,266,125	\$2,980,900
States			\$522,466,136	\$2,980,900

*Emery county, the state board of equalization added \$2,625 and deducted \$55,282 from original assessment by county assessor. **Bonded indebtedness not reported, amounts taken from 1914 reports.

SHORT MONEY CROP

Government Man Reports On Insect In Emery County.

The honey crop of Emery county is threatened by an insect that swabs the nectar in the flowers in such manner as to make it inaccessible to the bees, according to a report given by Dr. E. T. Titus of the Utah Agricultural college.

The queen little pest has been so industrious in its attack on the alfalfa and sweet clover blossoms in Emery county, says Dr. Titus, that a serious shortage of the honey crop is threatened.

The bees may even find it difficult to get sufficient nectar for their own food, it is feared.

TWINKLE TROT NEW DANCE TO BE POPULAR THIS WINTER

CHICAGO, Aug. 26.—The "twinkle trot," a dance similar to fox trots, will be among the newest dances to become popular this winter, it was decided today at the convention of the National Association of Dancing Masters.

The "gem walk," and "chinese professional dance" also will be among the new novelties.

WILL HOLD FESTIVAL

The Dixie Fruit festival at St. George will be held September 7th and 8th. The fact that rates have been secured over the Salt Lake route saves a record attendance. The rain service will extend to Lund, and which point there will be a motor car service.

Grapes, melons, oranges and like tropical fruits will be served the visitors. The railroads announce that tickets may be bought September 3rd and 6th and that they will be good for return trip as late as September 3th.

ARE YOU LOOKING OLD?

Old age comes quick enough without inviting it. Some look old at 30. That is because they neglect their liver and bowels. Keep your organs regular and your liver healthy and you will not only feel younger but look younger. When troubled with constipation or biliousness take Chamberlain's Tablets. They are indicated especially for those ailments and are excellent. Easy to take and most agreeable in effect. Obtainable everywhere.—Advt.

Location notices carried in stock at The Sun office.

Mission of the Newspaper

This interesting paper on "The Mission of the Newspaper" was read by Roger F. Miller, editor of the Morristown Republican, before the East Tennessee Press association in convention at Cumberland Gap, Tenn., last week:

"The mission of the newspaper, in my opinion, is to preach progress—to work continually, intelligently, persistently for the improvement and development of the territory in which or for which it is published. The newspaper that fails in this falls in its mission and has no worthier excuse for existence than the laborer who works merely for a living.

"We all agree concerning the power of the press. We are inclined at times to boast of the fact that we mold public opinion. How often do we sit down to consider the question of how and where we are directing public opinion? How many of us, I wonder, have a definite goal toward which we are pointing, urging, leading the people of our communities? Is this power of the press given us to boost friends into office, to build political machines, to perpetuate partisanship, or is it placed in our hands for a higher and better purpose, to promote Christianity, to improve the conditions of mankind, to build cities, communities, commonwealths, a nation?

"But, you say, the newspaper is a business enterprise, the newspaper profession the hardest worked and poorest paid, the least appreciated and the most imposed upon, and printing the only business excepted when merchants talk of the horrors and dangers of the mail order invasion.

SHOULD BE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.

"The newspaper should be a business enterprise and should be conducted along strictly modern and aggressive business lines. Unfortunately too few of our newspaper men are really business men and few lines of industry could survive the methods that prevail in the average small publishing plant. We are poorly paid because as a class we do not know what it costs us to do business. If we find out and determine to our satisfaction what we should charge in order to earn a reasonable profit we haven't the nerve to demand the price. So we sit in the bottom of the rut and growl and complain, and spend our days fighting the sheriff and the wolf from the door.

"Appreciated? Well that depends upon the character and extent of the service we have rendered. James G. Blaine, informed by a friend that he was bitterly opposed by the people of a certain district, said: 'Why, that is strange. I don't remember to have ever done them a favor.' If your service has been chiefly political favors to the ins or outs, your labor has been in vain, for while there are exceptions, the average politician lives only to call for more. But, if you have rendered worthwhile service to mankind and to your community, then appreciation will be yours in bountiful supply and not lacking in any quality that satisfies.

"Yes, we are imposed upon, but find the man in any line of present day activity who is not imposed upon. True, we are expected to run beautifully detailed wedding accounts, extended announcements of home talent shows, interviews galore and lengthy obituaries, furnish free copies to everybody concerned and then thank them for helping to 'fill up.' The business man who doesn't believe in advertising asks for free writeup and the average subscriber, if left alone, will pay when he gets ready. But, have you ever thought of the lady who examines every bolt of cloth in the dry goods store, collects a handful of samples and trips gaily away to shop another day? Or the fellow who calls on the soda fountain clerk several times daily for water, but indulges in profitable drinks only when the other fellow pays the bill? Or the young man around town who adorns himself with swell spits and fine linen and leaves the clothier to fight it out with father? Or the lady who visits the grocery store to sample everything in sight and reach, and buy a five-cent box of matches? Or the economical carpenter who expects the hardware man to donate the nails because he 'only wants five or six?' Or the fellow who buys a pair of pants and asks the merchants to 'throw in' the suspenders?

UNFAIR MERCHANTS PASSING

"There are merchants who expect us to defend them against the mail order invasion and who repay us by sending their printing to Cincinnati, Kansas City or some other foreign port. There are others who place their printing order with the lowest bidder, and demand that we pay the price marked on the ticket. Both of these represent a passing order and one that will entirely disappear when we have placed the newspaper on a business basis and are prepared to face the world in competition.

"I do not believe in special favors. I do not believe that we should receive the undivided support of our business men simply because we are running 'the home paper.' A progressive manufacturer in my home town has an advertising phrase that reads: 'Give our flour a trial and if you find that it is better than any you have ever used, buy it because it is made in Morristown.' This is an age of keen competition. When we enter this or any other line of industry let us be men enough to determine that we will win on our merits and back that determination with the best that we have. 'In a weekly newspaper picked at random from the exchange table this week, I found nearly three columns of patent medicine and miscellaneous foreign advertising for which I happen to know the publisher receives less than one-half the rate charged his local advertisers. Is this a square deal? Is this good business? If I were that publisher, willing to reform and really in earnest about the matter, I would cancel every one of those contracts, fix a fair rate and stick to it. And the three columns of schools, better farming, better civic conditions, facts and figures concerning the resources and development of the home town, frequent sermons from the gospel of progress. And in the meantime, hustle for business.

COMPENSATION OF EDITOR.

"What compensation do we receive? First and more important than any other consideration, the satisfaction that comes only from good work well done, the knowledge that we are contributing our share to the development of the country and the betterment of mankind, the glory of achievement, the joy of building things worth while. With all these will come the approval and eventually the active co-operation of our progressive citizenship. The home town will grow and prosper. The newspaper that has fulfilled its mission in the community and is keeping abreast with the development will receive its full share of the benefits.

"The growth of your community may bring new and keener competition, but if you have in your mind and heart and always before you in your work, the broad vision of your community's needs and the possibilities of its future, if you are still working and winning on the merits of your product, you will not suffer. Others may come and go but the live newspaper runs on forever."