

# The assessment is too high

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**B**ack over sixty-five years ago it seems that Walter Brown owned a cobblestone house located on East Transit Church Road in the Town of Murray.

The assessment on his property was increased, which annoyed him.

When he saw the Murray assessor he said to him: "It isn't fair that you've raised the assessment on my old cobblestone house. It's been a tenant house but I haven't had it rented out to a family in over three years. I could see how you might raise the assessment if I was getting income out of the property, but I'm not. Therefore, I want you



to lower it!"

The assessor replied:

"Walter, I can't do a thing for you. You'll have to take your complaint to the grievance board."

When grievance day came, Walter went before the three men on the Grievance Board and stated his case to no avail.

At that point he became even more annoyed. In fact, he became downright angry. He stewed, fretted and agonized over and over about his situation.

Finally, he decided to take the matter into his own hands. He went over to the Gordis Hardware store in Holley and purchased some dynamite. He borrowed a detonator from a quarryman and blew the cobblestone house up.

The rubble was buried and a vacant lot remained, thereby the assessor was obliged to lower the assessment.

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