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TAX LIMITATION MEASURE

Heading the list of measures appearing on the Nov. 2 election ballot is the proposal to amend the six percent tax limitation provision of the state constitution. Like several others of the measures on the current ballot, this proposal, in our opinion, is poorly drawn and is not sufficient to give the relief actually needed. On the other hand, it offers an improvement, partially freeing expanding communities from financial shackles which now bind them.

The constitutional amendment which limits increases in budgets to six percent per annum is an excellent safeguard against excess spending of public funds when growth and activity are normal. The law, however, is a great handicap to growing communities, particularly when those communities are in a boom period, such as now being experienced in Western Oregon.

The six percent limitation may be exceeded only upon approval by the voters, which means that in growing communities voters must pass upon budgets every year. This not only is a nuisance, but offers the danger of extreme difficulty should a proposed budget be defeated at a light election.

Roseburg, for instance, has been forced to expand its budget very materially over its legal tax base. The Roseburg school district has gone even further than the municipality. Should we suddenly be forced back to our legal tax limitation, we would be unable to furnish even bare necessities of municipal and school administration. Yet that danger exists at every election.

The proposed amendment would provide that after a community has voted special levies at two successive elections it may, at the third election, establish a new tax base which shall be the average of the levies for the three-year period.

In areas expanding as rapidly as in Western Oregon the amendment would furnish partial relief. We are growing so rapidly, however, that a three-year average would not bring our tax base up to the necessary level and, in most cases, we would still be required to vote annually on a special levy. We would, however, have our legal tax base high enough that the danger from a rejection would not be as acute as at present.

We have upon previous occasions advocated studies leading to a flexible formula for use in connection with the six percent limitation and still believe it is the only logical method of meeting the situation.

The formula should, in our opinion, be based upon assessed valuations. As valuations increased, the tax base should expand at a ratio which could be determined by research into municipal management. Thus as communities grew their tax base would rise in proportion. If, on the other hand, the communities started to decline, the tax base would shrink in proportion. Thus we would have a formula of a flexible nature providing for reductions in taxes as well as increases to meet changing needs.

Until a more realistic method of amending the six percent limitation law is found, however, we recommend passage of the proposed measure as a stop-gap. It should not, in our opinion, be accepted as the final solution to the problem.

Cool Heads Needed in Polio Menace

A case of polio at Dillard has brought alarm to many people. The school was closed by district board action and residents are anxiously awaiting to learn whether other cases will develop from exposures incurred by students attending the school.

It will be a miracle if we do not have more cases of polio in the Roseburg area. Our boom growth has forced many people to live in tents, trailers, congested homes and rooms and under other abnormal circumstances, while sanitary facilities are woefully lacking in many congested areas. It is to be hoped that we have no more cases. We might be lucky. But it would be foolish to overlook the possibilities that other children, and possibly adults, will be stricken.

Most important of all is to avoid panic. The situation is only complicated when people become excited. The Douglas County Chapter of the Infantile Paralysis Foundation has given much study to the program of combatting a polio epidemic. The County Public Health Department is organized to direct the fight. The essential factor is complete cooperation between physicians and the public with the Health Department. Any suspected cases should be reported immediately. A physician should be called without delay if symptoms develop. Quick diagnosis and immediate treatment will prevent serious after-effects in the majority of cases. The time element is vital.

The Health Department does not advocate closing schools except in emergencies. There is no criticism of the action taken at Dillard, but if any school is closed, either by the district board or by health authorities, a strict quarantine should be maintained, with children being confined to their own homes and yards and not permitted to collect in groups. Closure of schools, health authorities say, can greatly increase the danger, unless children are kept isolated from possible exposure through contact with other children.

Myrtle Creek High Tips Roseburg Javees, 24-0

Myrtle Creek High School proved too fast, and literally outran the Roseburg Junior Varsity team, to win 26 to 0 Saturday at Myrtle Creek.

Norm West, Roseburg coach, had plenty of praise for Myrtle Creek's Weaver and Shirliff. The latter figured in most of the scoring plays. The final score came on a fluke play, when a bad pass from center sent Shirliff scampering back from the 35-

yard line almost to his goal line. He managed to evade three Roseburg tacklers then when still fully five yards behind the line of scrimmage passed to a teammate, who ran the remaining distance to score.

The Roseburg JV's play a return game with Grants Pass here Saturday.

Wessels play a relatively minor part in the annual fur harvest because their pelts are so small as to be hardly worth the trapper's efforts.

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



Scrap from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnett S. Martin

"Y'know, Mother," said the blue-eyed little lad who was propped up on one elbow, listening to the bedtime reading, a habit in the home, "I just don't believe that Bible story." His tone was casual but emphatic. One familiar with the way he reacted under any pressure would know that he was ready to make an issue of it...

Once when he was only a toddler, hearing a note in his father's voice that struck him in his own thought, evidently, he refused to "pick up the toys and put them in the basket like I told you!" Silently he stood there, by the basket, refusing to bend his small back... It ended by his father "making" (?) him pick up the toy by placing his big hand over the child's little one, and shutting the child's fingers about the toy, thus getting the toy into the basket, and himself out of a jam? For certainly that small boy never picked up the toy; do you think he did?

So now, seeing breakers ahead, the mother silently asked for help—and then she recalled an incident of her own childhood and a loved voice comforting her; she paraphrased to the small boy:

"You don't believe it, Son. Your mind is like a fort. Nobody can get into it unless you let them in. What folks do with things outside of your mind you can't always help and don't always like."

But in your mind you can do exactly as you like. I believe this story, Son, believe it with my whole heart. But you don't have to.

"But do this, Son, please. Think about it. Turn it over and over in your thinking, and be sure the truth about it will be made known to you. Sometimes as we get older we look at things differently, too. Now it's your turn to choose the next story..."

It was the habit then for the children to choose alternate readings, thus pleasing the child's love of repetition of familiar words, and thus giving the reader an opportunity to add to their store of treasures of the mind.

It is a pity that some people think the Bible text is "too hard" for young children. Don't you think children reflect, sometimes, the thought about them? At any rate there were two small boys who lived to hear the Bible read! And as the passages became familiar their voices would join in any phrases they knew especially in the first chapter of Genesis and The Sermon on the Mount which they often asked for. Their comment on the various characters in the Bible was often enlightening, sometimes surprising in its acumen, for instance: They liked the story of Naaman, laughed heartily at the King's "tight spot" and liked the way Elisha "told him off." (II Kings 5:7,8).

Historic Cooper Union Mecca For Brains, Crackpots, Scholars and Scum

By SAUL PETT

NEW YORK, Oct. 23—(AP)—The "campus" is a tiny, sooty square on the north edge of the Bowery.

The "gay collegiate life" is a fiction here under the rumble of the "EL" in the shadow of the flop houses, in the jungle of "horse markets" that only the owners call restaurants.

Here sits a misshapen brownstone building, 11 houses, the Cooper Union for the advancement of science and art. As a physical achievement of America I don't suggest you call it to anyone's attention, but you might bring it up in talking about the real meaning of such overused abstractions as "freedom of expression" or "democracy."

As a school, Cooper Union will never worry Harvard. It only offers one and only one degree, in engineering. It is free. Its money comes from old endowments set up by such conservatives as Peter Cooper, the inventor, and later Andrew Carnegie, the steel magnate.

By day, it isn't much, but by night, in the old basement auditorium where they hold their famous lecture series, the place seems to expand into a bigness that includes all the ideas of the world, no matter who's selling them. You can get that feeling just in one night. It won't cost a penny. You don't have to know anybody to get a seat.

For 88 years now some of the best minds in this country—and they frequently didn't agree with the prevailing political, religious and academic powers—have been speaking their piece in that auditorium. Lincoln did in 1880 and nobody much minded that he forgot to remove the pencil stub from behind his ear.

The podium Lincoln used is still there on the platform. So is the memory of his last words on that snowy night in 1880: "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

From Lincoln through Wilson, 13 American presidents have spoken there. So did Robert Ingersoll, whose views on religion were so radical he had to have protection from the crowd. Henry George, the great single-tax econ-

They never won a game. They came close once, pushing the ball down to the enemy's two-yard line.

But the Cooper Union backfield got excited at this historic moment. It was a question of who would take the ball over. They took so much time in the huddle they were penalized and never did score or win the game.

In 1936, the Student Council disbanded the football team but some of the boys kept playing anyway, under different names. They couldn't even call themselves Cooper Union. That was the year they won their first and only game.

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

roaring through a red light with the police looking on.

It grips us onlookers, naturally, because they are having all the fun and we are doing all the waiting.

In an office window, four or five stories up, a girl is scattering torn paper, in the manner of Lower Broadway, in New York, when parades pass. Having nothing else to do while waiting, and being in a business where paper and diamonds are practically synonymous, I check up on the kind of paper she is casting to the bay breezes. She is working now on the yellow sheets stenographers use to make carbon copies on, tearing them into scraps about an inch square.

They float down like huge snowflakes, littering the sidewalk and the pavement. It seems likely that a part of the fun is the thought of the mess the street-cleaning department will have to tidy up. We all like to see other people work.

EVERYTHING ends, even waiting for a parade. Somebody says excitedly: "Here it comes." A snatch of music floats down the wind. Gaily colored lights appear, far up Stockton street, beyond the tunnel. A rustle of pleased anticipation runs through the waiting crowd.

Tonight's parade is Chinatown's contribution to the festival. Hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of AMERICANIZED Chinese. Most of them are children. They are happy children, their faces fresh and healthy, their bodies plump and strong and shapely. In CHINA ITSELF tonight, there are millions of STARVING children, their faces pinched and wan, their poor little tummies swollen and potty in the tragic way of children tummies that are stuffed with grass, garbage, etc., in a pitiful effort to get nourishment enough to stay alive. When you've seen children misshapen in that way and for that reason, you never can be wholly happy again. It stays with you like a bad dream—only worse.

THERE is a float, A beautiful float. Its occupants are Chinese girls. They are beautiful, in the exotic way of Oriental beauty. They too are happy and laughing, and their slim bodies are rounded and curvy. You feel, as you look at them, that they haven't a care in the world.

You know all the time, of course that in sorrowful China girls like this are being SOLD AS SLAVES by their parents to get money enough to keep the rest of the family alive.

In their veins runs the same blood that runs in the veins of the Chinese suffering and starving and dying and being sold as slaves in CHINA ITSELF today. These are just lucky. Their an-

cestors CAME TO AMERICA in time. What a whale of a difference a way of life can make! And yet there are people in this country who clamor for the way of regimented life that has made China what she is in contrast to what America is.

THE girl up in the window is now tearing up PRINTED LETTERHEADS. The carnival spirit certainly does things to people. The boss won't be in any carnival mood when he comes down in the morning and finds how his stationery stock has shrunk.

THE steady tramp, tramp of marching feet. Chinese feet. But not the BOUND feet of old China. Healthy, strong feet, walking on good American asphalt.

The ancestors of these healthy little feet came to America IN TIME. America changed them. For the better. American has always had a way of doing that.

Yet a lot of people want to CHANGE America.

A SULTRY-eyed red-head hangs on the arm of her tall, rather handsome escort. He is interested in the parade, even touched, possibly, by the pathetic world story that this parade tells BY CONTRAST.

His red-head isn't. "Let's get out of here and see something and do something," she says impatiently.

THE parade is ended by the traditional block-long dragon, breathing imaginary fire. Its vast body is lighted by incandescent lamps whose current is supplied by batteries. It is supported by hundreds of little Chinese boys who spell each other with the load and dash giggling in and out of the interminable yards of cloth and paper that make up the dragon's body. What a time they're having at it!

In the upper-story window the girl with the Broadway paper storm complex has used up all the carbon copy sheets, all the letter heads, has emptied all the waste-baskets and now has raised the office washroom and is tearing up the toilet paper and scattering it to the soft night zephyrs.

The end of the parade is passing, and the crowd is beginning to scatter.

Former Ferry, Now Towboat, To Be Overhauled

The Umpqua River Navigation Company's towboat, "Westport," will be dry-docked next week at the company's boatshop in Reedsport, for a complete overhaul. The work planned will probably take about two months to complete.

During this time, the hull of the boat will be completely repaired, and a new deckhouse and pilot-house will be constructed. New Caterpillar diesel motors also will be installed.

The Westport was one of two ferry boats brought here from the Columbia River to serve as ferries on the Oregon Coast Highway when this service was first instituted. They were used under a contract with the State Highway Commission until completion of the Umpqua River Highway Bridge.

Before being brought here, they were used as ferries on the Columbia River between Westport, Oregon and Cathlamet, Washington. After completion of the highway bridge here and the discontinuance of the ferry service, the two ships, Cathlamet and Westport, were put into service as towboats and are still being used for that purpose.

The Cathlamet was re-built and equipped with a new motor during the past few months and is now back in service. Capt. G. M. Leach, skipper of the Westport, will supervise much of the work to be done on his boat.



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PHILOSOPHER DIES
LOS ANGELES, Oct. 25—(AP)—George Edwin Burnell, internationally known philosopher and religious educator, is dead at the age of 85.

ports on metaphysical subjects and sacred literature, Burnell died yesterday after a short illness.

Palestine is roughly the size and shape of New Hampshire.

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PUBLIC NOTICE!

Many of you have not had the opportunity to invest in the

Douglas Community Hospital

OUR DRIVE FOR FUNDS IS STILL OPEN

Because of the limited time and personnel in the original campaign a large number of you were not contacted—workers are still in the field.

BUT WHY WAIT?

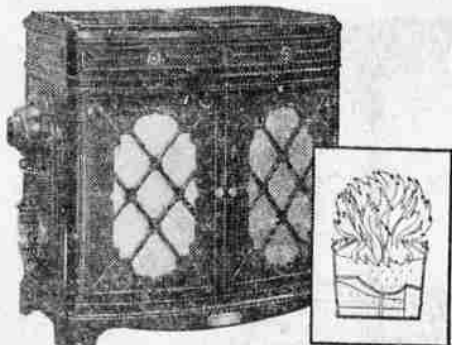
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