The News-Review

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Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations

Represented by WEST-HOLLIDAY CO., INC., offices in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Denver

Published Daily Except Sunday by the
News-Review Company, Inc.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, $12.00; six months, $6.50; three months, $3.25. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, $13.00; six months, $7.00; three months, $3.50.

By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, $15.00 (in advance), less than one year, per month, $1.25.

Entered as second class matter May 7, 1920, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 2, 1879.

COMMITTEE WORK REPORTED

By Charles V. Stanton

The Oregon Legislature is receiving reports from the many agencies and departments of the state government. These reports make very interesting reading and are most informative.

One of the latest of these formal reports is that of the Oregon Committee on Natural Resources. Because of my personal interest in this commission, and because I always like to think I had a small part in its formation, I found the summary of activities particularly interesting.

The committee was organized in 1949 by Doug McKay, then serving as governor. At the time there was widespread demand for creation of a Natural Resources Department. Bills were before the legislature to establish such a commission. A vigorous battle was in progress.

There was general acceptance of the idea that Oregon should have better coordination over conservation and resource use and planning. A commission on natural resources, however, was roundly opposed by a good many people who felt it would become a disturbing influence in state politics, as has happened in some other states.

Recommendations Sought

Governor McKay asked recommendations from a number of conservationists over the state. From these recommendations and McKay's original ideas on the subject, came the committee on natural resources to serve as a coordinating body, after the legislature had refused to approve a commission.

Among the recommendations, to which I was one of the contributors, was the plan of selecting representatives from each of the existing state departments having to do with natural resources and conservation, and assigning them to the job of coordination.

Previously departments were passing the buck, were squabbling as to jurisdiction, and were engaging, at times, in conflicting practices. It was the purpose of the committee to iron out conflicts, to assign responsibilities and to recommend resource planning and use.

Since 1949 there has been little agitation for a natural resources department. This indicates that the work of the committee has eliminated many of the complaints which had caused the previous demand.

The committee in its report calls attention to Conservation Week, Stewardship Week and other such promotional events in the resource field. It points out the need for topographic mapping and urges a state appropriation to be used in matching federal funds to complete the mapping program. Oregon agencies, such as the state engineer, tax commission, highway commission, board of forestry, department of geology, game commissiion and other, are badly handicapped, it is stated, because about one-half of Oregon's area is unmapped, while the greater part of the remainder is only partially mapped.

More Planning Needed

In addition to its work on state projects, the committee, according to its report, has reviewed the activities of federal agencies dealing with Oregon projects. At the same time several coordinating subcommittees have been established to work on such programs as highways, recreation, federal withdrawals, etc.

In my original recommendation concerning the formation of the committee, I suggested that there be a special committee, to be chosen by the governor from among the technical staffs of the several commissions, and that these experts serve as an advisory group to the governor. It was my thought that such a committee of technicians could suggest to the governor project material which the departments themselves might not originate.

I still believe such a planning section is desirable. Although the Committee on Natural Resources has done an excellent job, and has eliminated much complaint that existed prior to its formation, it seems to me we need a more aggressive policy of resource development. A committee devoted exclusively to development of projects, reporting directly to the governor, who, in turn, would go to the whole committee for discussion and decision on the proposals, would, it seems to me, put a little more push and drive in the state's conservation and resource program.

Morse Strongly Protests Mideast Proposal Of Ike

BALTIMORE (AP) — Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore) said Wednesday night that "American boys by the thousands will do the dying" should Secretary of State Dulles go too far in applying President Eisenhower's Middle East resolution.

"And I have little confidence in his (Dulles') surefootedness," Morse added.

Morse has been one of the strongest critics of the administration's request for stand-by economic and military aid for the nations of the Middle East.

Speaking at a dinner given by the Baltimore chapter of Americans for Democratic Action, Morse listed three reasons why the Senate should turn down the President's request:

1. The resolution does not call for any commitments by this country's allies which would ensure their support of any American military aid to the Middle East.

2. It fails to provide for congressional approval of any specific acts which might be undertaken under the broad terms of the resolution.

3. It provides no specific solutions for operating the Suez Canal once it is cleared, for settling the Arab-Israel border disputes, or for resettling Arab refugees.

Despite his objections, Morse predicted that the Senate would pass the resolution. But he added that the measure "would be defeated 5 to 1 if the measure were debated publicly for a full month."

Morse said he thought the public was greatly uninformed about the Middle East resolution and about American foreign affairs in general.

If You Own Your Home, You Can Probably Reduce Your Tax By Itemizing Deductions

(This is the seventh in a series of eight articles describing procedures in filing federal income tax returns).

By WILLIAM O. VARN
AP Newsfeatures Writer

The federal income tax law allows you to reduce your taxable income by contributions you make to churches or charity and by the amounts you pay out for interest, certain taxes, large medical and dental costs and certain other personal expenses.

If you have determined the amount of your adjusted gross income you are ready to decide whether you should take the 10 per cent standard deduction allowed for personal expenses or whether you should itemize them on Page 2 of Form 1040.

The importance of adjusted gross income as a factor in determining your tax liability cannot be overemphasized. It is the basic figure from which your tax is computed.

If you are an employe working for straight salary or wages and you do not have exclusions for sick pay or for expenses connected with holding your job, your gross income and your adjusted gross income usually will be the same.

So, if you have this figure worked out on Line 11 of Form 1040, you would do well to itemize on a worksheet the amount of deductions you may take as allowed by law. These deductions are described on Pages 8, 9 and 10 of your Form 1040 instructions.

After you have listed and totalled the deductions to which you feel you are entitled, then you can compare this total with the amount you would be allowed by taking the standard deduction. The total may exceed the allowance you will get by taking the standard deduction.

The standard deduction permitted by the income tax law is 10 per cent of your adjusted gross income, but with certain dollar limits. If you are single or are married and file a joint return with your wife or husband, the limit on the standard deduction you may claim is $1,000. If a wife and husband file separate returns, each is entitled to a standard deduction of not more than $500 on each return.

If a husband and wife file separate returns and one takes the standare deductions the other must do so. This is a decision husband and wife must make, just as they have to decide whether to file a separate or joint return.

Your task is simplified if you use the benefit of nonbusiness deductions without the possible burden of having to prove you are entitled to deductions you itemize.

The tax table on Page 16 of the instructions, which may be used only for adjusted gross incomes of less than $5,000, gives credit for the 10 per cent standard deduction automatically. The deduction for those with income of $5,000 or more is 10 per cent of the adjusted gross income, but not in excess of $1,000.

If you decide to itemize your personal expenses on Page 2 of Form 1040, here are some of the items you may deduct from your adjusted gross income:

Contributions — You can deduct gifts to religious, charitable, educational, scientific or litary groups or non profit organizations. In general, these deductions may not exceed 20 per cent of your adjusted gross income.

Interest — You can deduct interest paid on personal debts, such as bank loans or on your home mortgage, including — within certain limits — interest often disguised as "handling charges" in installment payment contracts.

Taxes — You can deduct most non-federal taxes paid by you. These include most state or local retail sales taxes, personal property and real estate taxes, state or local income taxes, automobile license fees, and state gasoline taxes.

Medical and Dental Expenses — If you itemize deductions you can deduct medical and dental costs which exceed 3 per cent of your adjusted gross income. You must list the amount paid to each individual or organization. You can deduct only amounts actually paid during the year for medical and dental treatment for yourself, your wife and any dependent who received more than half of his support from you.

You can deduct payments to doctors, dentists, nurses and hospitals, for eyeglasses, artificial teeth, medical or surgical appliances or braces, X-ray examinations or treatment, and premiums on hospital or medical insurance.

You also can take off amounts paid for the prevention, cure, correction or treatment of a physical or mental defect or illness. And, you can deduct the cost of transportation necessary to get medical care, including those for a parent taking a child to seek medical services.

You add up the amounts you have spent for such items. If this total is more than 3 per cent of your adjusted gross income, you can deduct the difference. If your medical expenses have been extremely heavy, you should refer to the limitations on Page 9 of Form 1040 instructions or consult your district revenue director's office.

You can include the cost of medicines and drugs in medical expenses only by the amount that they exceed 1 per cent of your adjusted gross income. Example: if your adjusted gross income is $6,000, 1 per cent of that is $60. If you spent $100 for medicines and drugs, you can count as a medical expense only $40 ($100 minus $60 equals $40.)

Child Care and Disabled Dependents Care — Employed women, and men who are widowed, legally separated, or divorced, may claim up to $600 deduction a year for the amounts they pay for care of children under 12 years of age or for other dependents who are incapable of caring for themselves. You do not get a flat deduction of $600, only what you spend up to that limit. You have to itemize the care expense deductions and you cannot use the tax table to figure your tax or report your income on the short, cardboard Form 1040A if you take this deduction. Taxpayers are allowed to take off the amount if the care of a dependent is necessary for them to hold a job or while they are actively seeking work. Married women must file a joint return with their husbands and reduce this deduction by the amount their combined adjusted gross income exceeds $4,500.

Casualty Losses — You may deduct the net amount of actual property loss or damage of your personal property resulting from a fire, storm, flood, automobile accident, theft, hurricane or other similar event. You can take off for losses of money or other personal property from theft in the year of discovery, but you cannot deduct losses due to mislaying articles. In the case of casualty loss, you can only deduct the amount for which you were not compensated by insurance.

Miscellaneous Expenses—if you work for a salary or wages, you can deduct the ordinary and necessary expenses you pay for the benefit of your employer in holding your job. This applies to expenses you have not already deducted from your income on Page 1 of Form 1040 as explained in an earlier article.

For example, if your job requires you to furnish small tools, you can deduct the cost of the tools. You can also take off for the cost of safety equipment. Among other deductions you may take under miscellaneous expenses are:

Dues to unions or professional societies, entertaining customers, fees to employment agencies, payments of alimony or separate maintenance under a court decree, cost of uniforms required because of your job and which you pay for, and any necessary expenses in connection with earning taxable income or management of property held for the production of taxable income.

SATURDAY: Tax tips.

Former Clackamas Co. Judge Passes At 69

PORTLAND (AP) — Funeral services will be held at Milwaukie Saturday for Wallace R. Telford, 69, a former Clackamas County judge who died in a hospital here Wednesday after a brief illness.

A brother, Douglas, had died 24 hours earlier in a Portland hospital.

DITCHED MEN RESCUED

HONOLULU (AP) — Three men were rescued uninjured from a Skyraider attack bomber which ditched 30 miles south of Honolulu and are "in excellent condition" aboard the aircraft carrier Hornet the Navy said today. The men were Lt. J.G. Coy H. Arnold II, Lancaster, Ky.; Electronics Technician 2.C. Jerry D. Daugherty, China Grove, N.C.; and Electronics Technician 3.C. Troy E. Pearson, Byers, Tex.

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — The United States is making its first direct pitches to win friends and influence Middle East royalty under the new Eisenhower doctrine. This comes with the arrival here of King Saud ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia and the crown prince of Iraq, Emir Abdul Illah. The latter is uncle of King Feisal II and his former regent.

King Saud comes as the officially invited guest of President Eisenhower. The king will be given the full visit-of-state treatment.

Prince Abdul Illah comes on a private visit which is his own idea. He'll be most welcome, but without red carpet.

There are no plans for the two guests to meet each other, either privately or with U.S. officials. But if their paths should cross under the right circumstances—well, "They could make a lot of medicine," as American Indians used to say.

KING SAUD comes to Washington fresh from a Cairo meeting with King Hussein of Jordan, President Nasser of Egypt and Premier Sabri el-Assali of Syria. It was agreed at this session that Jordan would receive from the other three countries an annual subsidy of 12.5 million Egyptian pounds ($35,000,000).

This is Egypt's latest move to drive British influence out of the Middle East and drive Israel into the Mediterranean Sea — though they didn't say so that bluntly.

Prince Abdul Illah comes to Washington fresh from a meeting of the prime and foreign ministers of Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Pakistan at Ankara, Turkey. These four countries are members of the Baghdad Pact, which they would like to have the U.S. join.

At their Ankara meeting the four countries' leaders endorsed President Eisenhower's plan for resisting Communist aggression in the Middle East.

KING SAUD and Prince Abdul Illah are in a position to give the United States first-hand reports on thinking of the two groups.

The 43-year-old Prince Abdul Illah holds the position of adviser to young King Feisal II who at 21 heads a limited, semidemocratic monarchy.

Actual leader of the government is Premier Nuri al-Said. But the king is popular and by no means a figurehead.

Abdul Illah's influence is considerable. He is well educated and has a western outlook. He has been in the U.S. twice. He has one wife, his second, daughter of a senator. He is slightly built.

Six-foot-three, 55-year-old King Saud is a real son of the desert. His formal education is less than that of a high school graduate and was based largely on the Koran. He has three legal wives, many concubines, 40 sons and even more daughters.

BOTH SAUDI ARABIA and Iraq get most of their wealth from oil royalties, amounting to over 250 million dollars a year. Both have lost considerable income in recent months — Saudi Arabia from the Suez Canal blockade, Iraq from sabotage of pipelines to the Mediterranean by Syria.

King Saud spends his money as he pleases and issues no financial statements. It is known, however, that he borrows heavily in advance of his semiannual royalties from Arabian American Oil Co. He receives no U.S. government aid and he stopped one Point Four program after a short trial.

Iraq, on the other hand, spends 70 per cent of its oil money from the American - British - French-Dutch - owned Iraq Petroleum Co. for education, public works and some industrial development. Iraq has received about eight million dollars of U.S. technical assistance and unrevealed quantities of military assistance.

West Democrats To Get Big Part In Bay Conference

WASHINGTON (AP) — Newly-elected Democrats from the Far West will have a big part in the party's first national post-election conference to be held in San Francisco Feb. 15-16.

The Democratic National Committee said Thursday the conference, expected to attract more than 1,000 party leaders, will feature panel discussions on issues affecting the West. The discussions will be led by newly-elected Sen. Frank Church of Idaho and Govs. Robert Holmes of Oregon and Albert D. Rosellini of Washington.

It was in the Far West that the Democrats made some of their outstanding gains in the last general elections. The San Francisco conference is being sponsored by 11 Western states.

The two-day session will mark the first Democratic National Committee meeting ever to be held on the West Coast. It will also include a meeting of the newly-formed Democratic Advisory Committee, and the first post-election speech of Adlai E. Stevenson, the party's 1956 standard bearer. Stevenson will speak at a $50 a plate fund-raising dinner the night of Feb. 16.

Other congressional and state party leaders who will participate in the San Francisco panel sessions include Sens. Bible (Nev.), Humphrey (Minn.), Morse (Ore.) and Gov. Averell Harriman (NY). Many House members will take part.

Delegations from Alaska and Hawaii will take part in discussions of statehood.

Wheat Industry Session Scheduled Feb. 19-20

CORVALLIS (AP) — The Oregon Wheat Industry Conference, scheduled at Portland Feb. 19-20 under Oregon State College sponsorship, will feature two widely known speakers who will discuss future wheat markets.

C. B. Davidson, secretary of the Canadian Wheat Board at Winnipeg, will talk on the effect of U. S. and Canadian competition for world markets.

Gene Flack, sales counsel for Sunshine Biscuit Co., New York, will discuss possible new uses and markets for the types of wheat grown in the Northwest.

Findings of a large number of wheatmen and others, who have been looking into wheat problems for the past year, will be presented and discussed.

ACTRESS SUES

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Actress Ann Sothern, star of the television show "Private Secretary" says $35,000 is due her from the show.

Her superior court complaint claimed profits from the show have been improperly distributed.

Miss Sothern and Vincent Productions named these defendants: Chertok Televisions, Inc., Apex Film Corp., Jack Chertok and others connected with filming and distributing the weekly series.

Accused Arsonist Pleads Innocent To Four Charges

SPOKANE (AP) — The court-appointed attorney for Ernest Paul Landry, the 28-year-old bookkeeper who claims to have set 70 fires from coast to coast, told the judge Friday Landry is insane and mentally irresponsible.

Landry pleaded innocent to four arson charges in connection with minor fires at the Spokane YMCA last December.

Attorney Jack Dean then submitted a written plea to Superior Judge Hugh Evans that Landry was insane at the time and is still insane and mentally irresponsible.

The state contends Landry was sane at the time of the YMCA fires. Trial will be set in March.

Landry was arrested in December on a sodomy charge, then was linked to the YMCA fires. He later gave authorities a detailed statement claiming to have set fires from one end of the country to the other, including several while he was a 17-year-old Coast Guard recruit.

Fire Capt. James Bell, chief arson investigator, said earlier that checks with various cities indicate Landry told the truth and that fires he mentioned may have caused a million dollars in damage.

Landry, in jail under $10,000 bond, said he wasn't sure just why he set the fires except "to see a little excitement". He said he wanted to be sent to a hospital.

Education By Television Predicted For Future

PORTLAND (AP) — Raymond H. Wittcoff, chairman of the National Citizens Committee for Educational Television, predicts that thousands of college students eventually will be taking classes by television.

Speaking here Wednesday at a meeting of Community Television, an organization backing educational TV in Oregon, Wittcoff said that at Pittsburgh, Pa., $300,000 has been spent to put an entire year of physics classes on television in color.

Wittcoff, a St. Louis businessman, said that a shortage of schools and teachers is making the problem of higher education increasingly difficult. Educational television can help alleviate this condition, he said.

Egypt Getting Arms Shipments From Russia

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russia is reported to have resumed arms shipments to Egypt in recent weeks in what appears to be a move to rebuild President Nasser's battered armed forces.

Top American officials who disclosed this today said, however, they could not be sure whether the shipments represent a new purchase or additional deliveries under a 250-million-dollar contract disclosed in September 1955. There have been rumors, but no confirmation, of a second such deal.

The officials said they have evidence of deliveries of medium tanks, artillery, personnel carriers and probably jet fighters.

Six-Inch Rainfall Hits West Texas Farm Land

DALLAS, Tex. (AP) — Rains of more than six inches Thursday flooded farm homes in west Texas, washed away farm terraces, destroyed a dam and closed highways.

Dense fog disrupted air travel in many north Texas points.

The south part of Fisher County, near Roby, received from 5 to more than 6 inches of rain. Rain gauges that hold 6 inches of water ran over in the county.

Water ran in many farm homes and terraces in southern Fisher County were washed away. Stock tanks also were washed away on many farms.

Fisher County Sheriff A. E. Rollans said about 6 inches of rain fell in Claytonville. Roby got 4½ inches, Snyder 2½, the Lamesa area 3½, Rotan 1½ and Fort Stockton 1¼.