

New Income Tax Returns Expected To Be Mailed Out To Oregonians By Jan. 1

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.

SALEM — You will get your Oregon income tax return around Jan. 1, or only a week later than usual.

But it took a lot of burning of the midnight oil by tax commission mathematicians to accomplish the job.

The Legislature, by revising the income tax laws last month, forced the commission to hold up the printing of its 1,142,000 personal income tax returns.

The Legislature went home Nov. 15, after passing a law reducing rates almost 20 per cent, giving extra reductions to the blind and to persons over 65 years old, and giving depreciation and loss carry-forward benefits to business.

Worked Day and Night

A half-dozen statisticians, research men and lawyers worked day and night hereafter. A week later, their work went to the printer, complete with new instructions and tax tables.

The new returns will be distributed to the taxpayer by branch offices next week, and they will be in the mail to all taxpayers by Jan. 1.

S. W. Horn, chairman of the Tax Commission, explains the haste is necessitated by the fact that some taxpayers like to pay up before Dec. 31 in order to deduct this year's state tax from the federal tax that is due April 15.

The state deadline is April 15, too.

Horn says that the earlier you file your return, the earlier you will get your refund, if you have one coming. The refund checks are made out in the order that the returns are received.

About 600,000 persons file returns. More than 240,000 will get refunds.

Wants Early Filing

He wishes more people would

file early because it would save the Tax Commission money. Spreading the filing of returns over a few months, instead of waiting until April, would enable the commission to avoid hiring a lot of extra help in April.

Employers will start using new withholding tax tables Jan. 1. These will be in the mails next week.

The new law doesn't go into effect until Feb. 14, but it applies to income earned this year. If somebody should succeed in filing a completed refund petition, and thus postpone the effective date of the new law at least until after the 1958 general election, the commission would be in hot water.

It would be in the position of having distributed incorrect returns to the taxpayer. But the commission feels the chance of a referendum is so small as to be virtually non-existent.

Figures No One Opposed

The commission figures that nobody objects to a tax reduction. The new returns are a little simpler. Taxpayers won't have to do much figuring, and the short form is contained on one sheet. It used to be on two sheets.

The front page of the return has a new wrinkle which Horn calls "Gifts Educational." This consists of two pie charts to show the taxpayer where the general fund revenues come from, and how they are spent.

It shows that 74 per cent of all these revenues come from personal and corporation income taxes, 15 per cent from liquor profits, 3 per cent from surplus and transfers, 3 per cent from inheritance and gifts taxes, and 3 per cent from taxes on insurance.

The other pie chart shows that 51 per cent of all general fund revenues are spent for education, 15 per cent for health and hospitals, 8 per cent for protection, 3 per cent for resources and development, and 2 per cent for veterans.

'Dears Crossing' Drive Slow Portland Slogan

PORTLAND — A group of women this week began carrying at a busy intersection signs which said, "Dears Crossing Drive Slow."

The women are mothers of students at Lynch School here, and are patrolling a busy street corner the youngsters cross on the way to class.

A child was struck and killed at the corner several weeks ago. The women said they are going to patrol the corner of Division Avenue and Division Street until traffic signals are placed there.

County Commissioner Al Brown said the signs will be installed as soon as equipment is available.

Principal Pleads Guilty To Sending Obscene Literature

TOPEKA, Kan. — Ralph Richard Bird, until recently principal of an elementary school at Ottawa, Kan., was put on two-year probation Wednesday after pleading guilty to sending obscene literature through the mails.

William Farmer, U. S. district attorney, told the court Bird had exchanged art photographs with a nation-wide group who contacted each other through "pen pal" advertisements in magazines.

Farmer said postal inspectors are investigating a New York man, who apparently acted as clearing house for the group and kept a roll of its members. He said Bird's name apparently was supplied by someone else.

Federal Judge Delmas C. Hill directed Bird to seek psychiatric treatment as soon as possible as a condition of the probation.

Harvey Ashworth, attorney for Bird, told Judge Hill the offense did not involve any youngsters at the school or at a youth center Bird directed.

"It is completely foreign to his background," Ashworth said. "He will never be able to go back to teaching."

Bird, 39, married and has two children. He resigned as principal of the school last month when the charge was filed against him.

Lumber Industry Hits Low Mark

PORTLAND — Since 1948 has the Douglas fir industry been at its lowest production pace as in 1957.

The West Coast Lumbermen's Assn., in its end-of-November report released Tuesday, said that month's figures were down both from the previous month and from the same month a year ago.

November production was 78 per cent of the five-year average for the month.

This declining activity, the association said, was part of the year-long drop which was expected to make 1957 the poorest year since 1948.

At the end of November the unfilled orders totaled less than 472 million board feet. That is a reduction of 62 million board feet year at the same time, and of 71 million from two years ago.

Production the first 11 months of the year was 7,394,754,000 feet, compared with 8,059,527,000 last year, and 8,988,413,000 in 1955.

New Respiratory Cases Number Over 4 Million

WASHINGTON — New cases of respiratory diseases serious enough to involve at least one day in bed numbered 4,000,000 in the week ended Nov. 10, the U. S. Public Health Service estimated Thursday.

There was a reduction of about 65 per cent from the estimate of 11,500,000 for the week ended Oct. 19, which is regarded as having been about the peak week in the Asian flu epidemic.

New Million Dollar Plant Slated In Idaho

BOISE — Boise Cascade Corp. announced Thursday plans to build a million dollar plant in the Burley, Idaho, area to manufacture corrugated shipping containers.

Robert V. Mansberger, company president, said the plant will employ 50 men and should be in operation by midsummer of 1958.

The announcement said the plant will operate throughout the year making containers in which to package food and industrial products produced in the Intermountain region.

The Boise Cascade Corp. was formed last spring when the Boise Payette Lumber Co. acquired the Cascade Lumber Co. of Yakima, Wash. The company now is building a container plant at Attalia on the Columbia River 30 miles west of Walla Walla, Wash.

Boise Cascade also had under construction at Attalia a pulp and paper mill. When complete it will produce the raw materials to be used in the container plants there and in Burley. In the meantime, material for the making of corrugated boxes at Burley and Attalia will be purchased from other sources.

Pravda Warns Nations Against Missile Bases

MOSCOW — Pravda said Thursday if NATO nations let the United States set up missile bases on their soil they will leave themselves open to "the misery and destruction of nuclear retaliation."

The Communist party newspaper said the main reason for calling the NATO summit conference is "the collapse of the U. S. position of strength policy."

Once Acclaimed Flier Trying To Patch Up Life

VAN ALSTYNE, Tex. — A flier once acclaimed as one of the world's greatest was back in the old home town Thursday trying to pick up the pieces of a shattered life.

He is Claude Eatherly, a former major and a man hand-picked to usher in the atomic age.

Maj. Eatherly's plane was one of four which led the "Enola Gay" over Hiroshima. And "Enola Gay" was the atomic bomb that changed the world's warfare in an instant.

As if that weren't enough military glory, the major did the same for the bomb drop on Nagasaki. And took part in the Bikini atomic tests.

Thursday he was out of jail and looking for a job after a divorce, drunken spree, a series of trips to mental wards and an acquittal only last Tuesday on office burglary charges.

Doctors say he is obsessed by a guilt complex — that he feels responsible for 100,000 deaths in the Hiroshima bomb drop.

If he is well, and doctors say they can't tell, it probably is the first time since 1950, when he first went to the Waco, Tex., Veterans Hospital for mental treatment.

Dr. Robert B. McElroy, psychiatrist, told the Abilene, Tex., jury that acquitted Eatherly that his work in the atomic bomb drop would "be one factor involved in the guilt complex."

After his acquittal Tuesday, Eatherly told a newsman he would "try to go to work if some one will give me a job."

Pearson Proposes Frequent Meetings Between East, West

OSLO, Norway — Lester B. Pearson, winner of the 1957 Nobel peace prize, called Wednesday night for frequent diplomatic conferences between the nations of the East and West—especially between the United States and Russia.

"What I plead for is no spectacular meeting of a big two or a big three or a big four summit, where the footing is precarious and the winds blow hard, but for frank and complete exchanges of views through diplomatic and political channels," he said in the Nobel winner's annual lecture.

The forces of East and West, the Canadian ex-foreign secretary said, are in danger of reaching a stalemate with peace "balanced uneasily on terror."

"Our policy and diplomacy—as the two sides in the cold war face each other—are becoming as rigid and defensive as the trench warfare of 40 years ago, when two sides dug in, dug deeper, and lived in the trenches.

"It is essential that we avoid this kind of dangerous stalemate in international policy today," Pearson continued. "The main responsibility for this purpose rests with the two great world powers the United States and the U. S. S. R."

"No progress will be made if one side merely waits 'coexistence' and 'peace' at the summit," while the other replies 'no appeasement' and 'no negotiations without proof of good faith,' he said.

Peaches and oranges originally came to the U. S. from China.

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