

The News-Review

CHARLES V. STANTON, Editor and Manager

ADDY WRIGHT, Business Manager

GEORGE CASTILLO, Assistant Editor

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TAXES AND TIMBER

By George Castillo

A series of hearings of extreme importance get under way Monday in Salem.

The State Tax Commission will launch a series of special fact-finding hearings to air problems which have been swirling around the state in the last month on the subject of equalization of timber tax values.

The subject has turned out to be the hottest problem to face the commission since it began its property reappraisal program after 1951. The purpose of the program is to bring about equalization of appraisals between classes of property in counties, as well as between counties.

Hitches so far in the valuations around the state have been comparatively few. In the process of revaluation of real property, the determination of valuations of timber has been apparently left to the last. And the last area appears to be the knottiest.

Here in Douglas County, the state Tax Commission recommended hikes in private timber valuations of about 50 per cent. However, the three-man local Board of Equalization took the stand that "present cutting time and prices" would not justify such an increase. The valuation level of 1957 was retained.

County Assessor Morris Bowker said private timber is valued under the present rate in the county at about 14 1/2 million dollars. The recommended level would have raised it to almost 22 millions.

Other Counties Act

Douglas was not the only county to cut back from the recommended figures of the state. In Lane County, where the biggest hubbub on the subject has been carried on, the Board of Equalization ordered an approximate two-thirds cut in the values suggested by the state commission. Benton County sided the recommended values by a third. Coos County's Board of Equalization, however, restored values to the level recommended. Linn County also upheld the recommendations.

Because of these divergent methods of handling the suggested values, the state commission will, in effect, act as a state board of equalization.

The Valuation Division of the State Tax Commission insists that the appraisals in counties were developed on a uniform basis.

The commission now has the unwelcome decision of either approving the lack of uniformity between counties or reverse the actions of the county boards. It has the power to do either.

The problem is to achieve that nebulous area of "fair and equitable" taxation. Timber owners insist the valuations are out of proportion to reassessments of other types of property.

On the other hand, in Lane County, where the battle rages with greatest intensity, a candidate for the Legislature says the action of the board in cutting back the recommendations was a "death blow" to the entire reappraisal program. An attorney, who is leading opposition to the boards action, says other types of property owners will now "have to dig down and pay the taxes which the timber owners, under the law, should pay." In Douglas County, adherence to the state's recommendation would have shifted some \$450,000 in levies from residential, farm, utility and other properties to standing timber.

Pitfall Threatened

One of the pitfalls in setting the valuations of the timber at too high a level is that it might lead to a widespread movement by timber owners to "cut and get out" in an effort to get the best return on the timber. This would be a disaster for counties such as Douglas which depend heavily on lumber economy. It would almost certainly ruin any such thing as sustained yield on private lands.

This is certainly indication enough that the timber industry will not be dealt with lightly. It can affect the future of many of the counties.

The special hearings will start Monday in Room 6 of the State Capitol Building under the direction of Theodore de Looze, assistant attorney general and special counsel for the commission.

Assessor Bowker and the three members of the Douglas County Board of Equalization, Chairman Huron Clough, Harold Woolley and Carl Hill Sr. will appear at the hearing Wednesday.

The hearings will be open to the public, except for receipt of confidential information from individual operators. Tax Commission Chairman S. W. Horn, in an obvious understatement, indicates the sessions will probably extend for several days.

Whatever time is necessary will be worth it if an equitable level of assessment can be determined.

Coffee Serving Cost Equals Serving Milk

CORVALLIS (AP)—Restaurants generally charge extra for milk while serving coffee free with meals, but an Oregon State College economic study team says bookkeeping doesn't support the charge.

Although the milk itself costs more than the coffee, the coffee extra—labor, equipment, dishes, refills and sugar and cream—make the cost of serving the two about equal, the research report states.

The study was compiled from information gathered in four representative Oregon restaurants.

BECOMES CHAIRMAN

SALEM (AP)—Carl W. Chambers, member of the state Tax Commission since 1947, became its chairman this week. The position is rotated among the three commissioners.

The chairman for the past year was S. W. Horn.

Samuel B. Stewart becomes secretary.

HOLMES APPOINTS THREE

SALEM (AP)—Walter Shelby, Albany wheat grower, has been appointed by Gov. Robert D. Holmes to the Oregon Wheat Commission. He succeeds W. J. Enschel, Hillsboro.

Hollis Farwell, Portland shipping firm manager, was reappointed to the Board of Pilot Commissioners.

The governor also appointed Dr. Richard M. Smith, St. Helens, to the state Board of Naturopathic Examiners, succeeding Dr. Allen Hall, La Grande.

INVITED TO CENTENNIAL

PORTLAND (AP)—Rep. Edith Green (D-Ore.) has invited members of Congress to attend Oregon's centennial celebration in 1959.

Mrs. Green placed an outline of plans for the event in the Congressional Record and noted, "The state is planning the greatest fair held in the West since the 1939 San Francisco World's Fair."

Hound's Tooth



In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

As this is written, Nikita Khrushchev has just made one of his unpredictable moves on the cold war chessboard.

In a letter to President Eisenhower, he proposes that Russian and U. S. military representatives meet to work out a JOINT PLAN OF PROTECTION AGAINST SURPRISE ATTACK.

Presumably, such a plan, if workable, would make it feasible for all nations — particularly the United States and Russia — to suspend the testing of nuclear weapons. Suspending the testing of nuclear weapons would be a step toward warding off the USE of nuclear weapons.

That might be a step toward preventing the destruction of the world.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Khrushchev meant it?

The United States and Soviet Russia are the two most powerful nations in the world. If they could learn to work together, there isn't anything they couldn't do to bring about the kind of world we all want to live in.

Question: What's Khrushchev up to?

Since nobody knows, let's hazard a guess:

He probably hopes he can inspire us with rosy dreams, so that we will enter into an agreement to stop testing of nuclear weapons. He possibly hopes we would keep our word. He probably knows he wouldn't keep his word.

In that event, the time could come when Russia could OVERWHELM US with a sudden sneak attack and destroy us before we could strike back.

He possibly figures that anyway it's worth a try.

All this, I realize, is highly cynical.

Cynicism, in general, is bad business.

But—

In a world full of dangers — and much too full of the kind of people that communists are — we just can't afford to be too trusting. The era in which we're living is a cold WAR era. Cold war is still WAR — and one of the first principles of warfare is to deceive your enemy and then HIT HIM HARD WHEN HE ISN'T LOOKING.

The thing for us to do is to keep our fingers crossed and our powder dry.

Above all, we must make certain that our weapons are as potent as our enemy's weapons — and we MUSTN'T forget that communism is our enemy.

Another Indictment Charges Portland Man

PORTLAND (AP)—Another indictment charging extortion conspiracy was returned by a grand jury this week against Alfred E. Kiefer, 35, operator of the Monarch Publishing Co. here.

The warrant, served on Kiefer in the county jail where he is a prisoner, accuses him of threatening to injure the property of four nursing homes unless the operators of the homes purchased advertising in his newspaper.

Kiefer is being held in jail on two similar extortion charges. The new indictment accused him of threatening the operators of these homes: St. Bernard's Nursing Home and the Cottage Convalescent Home, both of Salem; and the Ideal Nursing Home and Columbia Medical Hospital, Portland.

ILLNESSES TRACED

SEATTLE (AP)—The deaths of two men and serious illness of a third in Seattle's Skid Row section Sunday has been traced to sodium nitrite, a commercial fertilizer which the men had mistaken for table salt.

Coroner John P. Brill said laboratory tests disclosed the cause. A fourth man who walked away after he ate with the others was still being sought.

Reader Opinions

Neuberger Gives Answer To Criticism Of Geddes

So that the full facts may be known, I have delayed in replying to the recent letter, published by many newspapers, in which Paul Geddes, Republican candidate for Congress in the 4th Oregon district, criticized me for not supporting his advocacy of import quotas on Japanese hardwood plywood. He also claimed that such imports were damaging employment in our Oregon lumber industry. At the same time, Mr. Geddes insisted he did not oppose reciprocal trade.

I felt an answer from me would be less convincing than from the Republican administration itself.

Accordingly, I submitted the substance of Mr. Geddes' letter to several leading officials of the administration in charge of trade legislation. Both these men are appointees of President Eisenhower and they are prominent Republicans.

There is not space in which to quote completely the replies I have received from these high officials of the Eisenhower administration. However, it can be stated definitely that they demolished and refuted the wholly inaccurate contentions put forth by the Republican nominee for Congress in the 4th District.

Wrote one of these men: "The suggestion made by your self-declared 'supporter' of foreign trade that we support legislation which would be directly contrary to the consistent efforts made by this country over many years to secure the abolition of quotas by other governments. We are against quotas because, among other reasons, the U. S. as the world's largest exporter, has a direct and vital interest in their elimination. And we know from experience that they are a constant irritant and potent source of trouble between countries."

And yet Mr. Geddes, who seeks election to Congress on the GOP ticket, attacks me because I do not join him in advocating import quotas.

Wrote another of these administration officials: "We, too, have received complaints that the plywood mills in the Pacific Northwest have suffered from increased imports of hardwood plywood from Japan. After studying the matter, however, we concluded that such imports are not competitive with plywood produced in the Pacific Northwest and that restrictions on imports would create great hardships for the users of imported plywood."

Wrote one of these top-level administration officials: "I am prepared to state categorically that in my judgment legislative quotas or similar import restraints are not, in general, consistent with the purposes of the reciprocal-trade program, and that working for quota restraints on plywood would not constitute cooperation with the administration under that program."

Yet, in his criticism of me, Mr. Geddes claimed (1) that he supported reciprocal trade, (2) that imports of hardwood plywood were hurting our local plywood industry, and that (3) quota legislation was desirable."

I have let important officials of the Republican national administration answer the misleading arguments put forward by the 4th District Republican candidate, when he assailed Congressmen Charles O. Porter and me because we support the reciprocal-trade program as advocated by a bipartisan group of eminent Americans including President Eisenhower, ex-President Truman and Adlai E. Stevenson.

Richard L. Neuberger, United States Senator

Appreciation Expressed On Moving Of Building

The Glide community took on a project of having the obsolete Grade School gym, which was donated by the school district, to a new location for a community building.

The club wishes to take this opportunity to thank the California Oregon Power Co., The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. and the people from the community for their time and labor in the moving project, which was donated.

The building is being renovated and in time we hope to have a nice building available to all in the community.

Again we say thanks to all. It was greatly appreciated.

Don P. Wright, building chairman

Esther K. Hackney, Secretary

Glide Community Club

Government Loss May Be Heavy On Grain Stocks

By OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON (AP)—Uncle Sam faces losses of upwards of a quarter of a billion dollars in the value of its surplus grain stocks by reducing price supports for the commodities.

The biggest loss was indicated for wheat, the amount being at least 150 million dollars. On the basis of prospective surplus stocks, the value of government corn holdings will drop around 50 million when lower supports go into effect Oct. 1.

Lower wheat supports went into effect July 1 and the Agriculture Department already has marked down the prices of this grain to the lower level.

Losses will be incurred also on value of surpluses of barley, rye, grain sorghums and rice by virtue of reductions in the support levels.

On the other hand, the department always stands the chance of getting more than its investment out of surpluses. Such would be the case should emergency situations arise to boom farm commodity prices.

This year the department should not lose any money on surplus cotton. The price support rate for this commodity will go up nearly \$19 a bale Aug. 1. The book value of its holdings could increase around 40 million dollars as a consequence.

Two Boys Are Arrested For Fireworks Resale

PORTLAND (AP)—Two teenage boys were held overnight in the county juvenile home after they sold fireworks which they had brought here from Woodland, Wash.

The police report said the boys hatched to Woodland, bought \$15 worth of fireworks—all of which are illegal here—and sold them at a 100 per cent profit.

Police also confiscated a quantity of sparklers Tuesday. Sparklers are illegal in Portland, although not banned by state law as are other fireworks.

Valsetz Lumber Company Buys Pondosa Pine

BAKER (AP)—Valsetz Lumber Co., Portland, Tuesday announced purchase of Collins Pondosa Pine Co., Pondosa, Ore.

Permanent closing of the mill had been announced in May, but two weeks later officials said that in deference to employees, the operation would stay open. It is the only commercial activity in the town of Pondosa, on the Baker-Union county line.

Vice Pres. M. Gale Beals of the Valsetz firm said employment of the Collins' crew would continue.

SCHNEIDERS HOSTS AT BARBECUE ON SUNDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Parks Schneider entertained at a most enjoyable barbecue dinner Sunday at their home on the South Umpqua River. In the afternoon, outdoor lawn games and swimming were enjoyed.

Those present included Mr. and Mrs. James Dryden, Mrs. Schneider's parents who are visiting here from Peoria, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Dale Owens, Nancy and David; Mr. and Mrs. Don Osipald and daughter, Beverly, and the host and hostess.

ENJOYABLE BEACH PARTY HELD AT CRESCENT CITY

Twelve representatives of the Glendale Southern Baptist Church participated in a beach party held at Crescent City, Calif., Friday. The party was under the sponsorship of the Siskiyou Baptist Assn.

Present from Glendale were Doris, Deloris and Willis Cobb, Martha and Ruth Harmonson, the Rev. and Mrs. Tom Harmonson, Robert Thomas, daughter, Lynn Thomas, Alvin Miller, Raymond Kunyon, and Janie Morris.

CONNIE AND ANN BERRY CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

Connie and Ann Berry of Elkton celebrated their birthdays Friday afternoon at a birthday party given in their honor by their mother. Connie was eight years old and Ann was ten.

Guests were Linda Burke, Lonnie, Carol and Donny Jacobs, Sandy, Marilyn and Sharon McNeil, Judy, Beverly and Gregg Mode, Teresa Galino, Donna Harbough and Wayne Berry.

The afternoon was spent playing various games followed by refreshments served by Mrs. Berry.

ELKTONITES ATTEND DRAIN INSTALLATION

A group of Elktonites of the North Star Chapter 121 attended the installation held at the Drain Masonic Temple Sunday evening at 8 p.m. Marjorie Cool was installed as worthy matron and Pete Finnell as worthy patron. Installing worthy matron was Mrs. Cool's mother-in-law, Velma Cool. Installing worthy patron was Flen Henderson of Cottage Grove.

Those from Elkton attending were Mrs. Earl Harris, Mrs. Harold Albro, Mrs. John Thomas, Mrs. Mae Van Etta, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Haines and Mr. and Mrs. John King.

SURPRISE SHOWER HONORS MRS. LANGDON

Mrs. Hazel Langdon of Yoncalla was pleasantly surprised Monday afternoon when members of the Elkhead Gift and Sewing Club honored her at a birthday apron shower.

Refreshments were served to Mrs. Hazel Langdon, Mrs. Gladys Jazek, Mrs. Theima Broszio, Mrs. Reta Turner, Mrs. Golden Kruse, Grandma Jazek and Mrs. Ethel Reeves.

LOVELY BUFFET DINNER ENJOYED AT UMPQUA

Mrs. Marie Haskett entertained at a lovely buffet chicken dinner at her home near Umpqua Tuesday evening.

Those enjoying the dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Haskett, Roger Iverson, Morse Haskett, Myron Iverson, Miss Helen Klaboe and the hostess.

RILEY HOME SCENE OF FAMILY DINNER

A family dinner was given by Mrs. Fred Riley at her home in Elkton Sunday afternoon. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Riley and family of Eugene, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Riley and family of Tacoma, Wash., and Mr. and Mrs. John Levenhagen and family.

WELLS CREEK CHURCH HAS PICNIC ON SUNDAY

The Wells Creek Church of Christ held a picnic Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lowe with about 25 members present. Rev. Leo Yoder of San Jose, Calif., was guest speaker at both Sunday morning and evening church services.

ELKTON EASTERN STAR HOLDS SUNDAY PICNIC

The Eastern Star Chapter of Elkton held a picnic Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Kynstra. About 50 members and guests were present. A large picnic luncheon was served and in the afternoon guests enjoyed visiting.

Picketing To Continue At Harvey Aluminum Co.

THE DALLES (AP)—Picketing at the Harvey Aluminum Co. reduction plant here will continue.

Circuit Judge Malcolm Wilkins ruled here this week that he can see no legal justification for banning the picket march. He did cut the number of pickets from five to two at the plant entrance.

General Engineering Co., the contractors finishing the huge project, asked that all pickets be banned. Company officials charged that on June 18, 20 and 21, pickets violated Wilkinson's May 22 injunction prohibiting intimidation, coercion and mass picketing.

The pickets representing the Teamsters, Electrical Workers Union locals and Oregon Labor Council here are picketing in protest of General Engineering's hiring of non-union labor.

State Power Commission Initiative Plan Fails

PORTLAND (AP)—An initiative that would create a state power commission will not be on the November ballot, it appeared this week.

Only about 75 per cent of the nearly 40,000 needed signatures have been obtained, said Elmer McClure, master of the state Grange which has been pushing the proposal, and Thursday is the deadline.

"We are giving up," McClure said.

The commission, if established, would have had authority to acquire, build and operate power generating and transmission facilities.

Edith Holland Marries James Martin Of Winston

The wedding of Edith Holland of Melrose and James Martin of Winston took place Sunday, June 27, following evening services at the Dillard Methodist Church. The Rev. Mr. Walker officiated.

The bride, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Miller of Melrose, wore a blue full-length gown.

Those present for the ceremony were Mrs. Miller, mother of the bride, and the bridegroom's mother, Mrs. Martin. Other guests were Dennis and Gene Tandy.

RODNEY JOHNSONS FETED AT HOUSEWARMING PARTY

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Johnson were most pleasantly surprised Friday evening at a delightful housewarming affair at their home at 1584 SW Kendall.

The outdoor potluck dinner was served in the Johnson yard at 7 p.m., from a table centered with a lovely bouquet of large white daisies and tea roses arranged by Mrs. Maude O'Bannon. A beautiful gift was presented to the Johnsons from the group.

Featured as after-dinner entertainment was an amusing mock wedding staged by the children attending. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson playing the parts of the bride and bridegroom.

Enjoying the dinner and evening of visiting were the guests of honor and Mr. and Mrs. H. E. McCollum, Mrs. Maude O'Bannon, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Tuck and Donna, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Voeller, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hall and Sharon and Tommy, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Haas and Paula, and Anita, Mr. and Mrs. Norval Cockram, Mr. and Mrs. Bill DeWitt, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mess, Marcia Hall, Mrs. Otto Gosnell and Richard and Kenneth Stanton, grandsons of the Johnsons, visiting from Portland.

MONNETTS HOSTS AT DINNER ON MONDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Monnett entertained at a dinner at their home near Umpqua on Monday evening for Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson of Grants Pass.

Places were set for Mr. and Mrs. Harold Crouch and family, Mrs. Pearl Brandner, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hebard and sons, the guests of honor and the host and hostess and family.

COLES ENTERTAIN AT LOVELY DINNER PARTY

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cole entertained at a lovely dinner party at their home near Umpqua Tuesday evening.

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Evich and Mary Alice Fraser of Elsie, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Millott and Jerry Cole.

UMPQUA RANCH SCENE OF RECENT DINNER PARTY

Mrs. Irma Anderson of Eugene and her brother, Edgar Solle of Umpqua, were dinner guests Monday evening of John Paulsen and his sister, Mrs. Lillie Wood, at their ranch near Umpqua.

MRS. DUNLAP HONORED AT SHOWER ON TUESDAY

Mrs. Howard Dunlap was the inspiration for a shower held Tuesday afternoon, at Canyonville at the home of Mrs. Ralph Weaver, with Mrs. Wade Worthington Sr., co-hostess.

Mrs. Howard Haymes assisted with games during the afternoon after which the guests shared Mrs. Dunlap's pleasure in opening the gifts. Refreshments were served by the hostesses.

Mrs. Dunlap plans to join her husband now stationed with the Navy in Japan with plans to be transferred to Alaska.

RIVERSDALE GRANGE HONORS 25-YEAR MEMBERS

The Riversdale Grange 731 entertained Saturday evening to honor members who had 25 years of continuous membership. Mrs. Eugene Atwood had charge of the program. Master Emmett Walters escorted each honored guest to a seat on the stage and presented a 25-year pin and silver star certificate as Mrs. Atwood told a short history of each member's life in the grange. Those who received the awards were Cleo and Dottie Tipton, Frank Grubbe, F. Graham Ewens and Reba Hartley. Dottie Tipton and Reba Hartley were not able to be present.

Emmett Walters, Norman Wicks and Mrs. Atwood pantomimed what they would have liked to have been. John Miller, a former world's champion log chopper, demonstrated his ability to chop through an inch log in 35 seconds. Sharon Wicks played a piano solo. The youth of the grange, Sharon and Tom Wicks, Roney Ware and Marvin Schneider, had charge of the games and refreshments. The hall was delightfully festive with summer bouquets. The serving table was centered with a decorated cake flanked by driftwood arrangements. Sharon Wicks served the cake.

The evening concluded with cards and dancing.

Past masters attending were Nelda Norris, Fred Kuck, Carl Youngren of Kalmath Falls, Cleo Tipton and Elvin Cloake. Charter members attending were Adm. Schneider, and Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Cloake.

INFORMAL DINNER ENJOYED AT GARDEN VALLEY HOME

Anita Holtman of Garden Valley was hostess at a share-the-fare dinner Monday evening. Arrangements of summer flowers were used about the home. Dinner was served in the patio which is surrounded by a delightful flower garden. After dinner guests played badminton and croquet. Visiting and viewing television occupied the remainder of the evening.

Invited guests were co-workers of the hostess at the Veteran's hospital and their families.

Those attending were Velma Bass, Howard and Esther Basson, Wesley and Pat Eccles, Larry and Joanne Hanlon, Cliff and Barbara Small, Fred and Nancy; Jim and Nancy Godfrey, Robin Bailey, Joe Smith, Agnes Roth, Gertrude Sherlock, Geraldine Pargater, Ann Piehl and Joe, Margery and Robin, and the hostess (family), Donnie Holtman, Mrs. Carl Arola, Helen, Carly, Mike, Peter and George Arola.

WHEEL ALIGNMENT