

Tax Committee Hears Request For Tax Relief

SALEM (UPI) — Pleas for inventory tax relief through a tax on net business income, and requests for property tax exemptions for labor temples and Chamber of Commerce property were heard Wednesday by the Senate Tax Committee.

The Senate group took no action on these measures, but did approve a bill exempting pension, retirement and Social Security benefits from taxation.

Urging passage of the House-approved inventory tax relief measure were Doug Heider, Associated Oregon Industries; Roger Martin, an equipment wholesaler, and Lew Norris, Oregon Farm Bureau Federation.

All claimed inventory taxes were inequitable, hindered business expansion, and that the House bill was "a step in the right direction."

The House measure would levy a one per cent tax on net business income to pay for a 25 per cent reduction in inventory tax.

Pearson Assails Proposal

Sen. Walter Pearson, D - Portland, attacked the proposal, and accused businessmen of wanting businesses which do not now pay inventory tax, such as professional firms, to share in the inventory tax load.

Pearson said a sales tax should be enacted, and that inventory taxes should be eliminated.

Walter Loggren and Tom Scanlon of the AFL - CIO said they wanted labor temples exempted from property taxes in the interests of "fairness and equity."

Lodges, legion halls, granges and other fraternal groups now are exempted from property taxes.

In a unique display of candor, the labor spokesmen said they did not feel any property should be exempted from property taxes, but as long as some were exempted, they wanted to share in the benefits.

Representatives of the Portland and Salem Chambers of Commerce said the House - approved bill which would grant the tax relief to labor temples should be amended to include property owned by Chambers of Commerce.

Senate Committee Calls For Opinion On Airline Fares

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Commerce Committee today called for the State Department's opinion on a bill to give the Civil Aeronautics Board power to regulate international air fares.

The administration measure was sent to Congress Tuesday. Committee Chairman Warren G. Magnuson, who introduced it, said "we want to proceed promptly in this matter."

The bill would give the CAB specific authority to regulate international air fares in much the same way as it regulates domestic rates.

CAB Chairman Allan S. Boyd told the committee that once the authority is granted the United States can seek basic reduction in overseas rates, not just a repeal of the 5 per cent increase to which the CAB has submitted.

Other congressional news:

FEED GRAINS — Democratic Leaders summoned the senate to early session in a drive to try to crush Republican opposition to passage of President Kennedy's feed grain bill this week. Senate Democratic Whip Hubert H. Humphrey insisted the bill would be passed by late tonight, but GOP leaders predicted the fight might drag on into the weekend.

PESTICIDES — A senate government operations subcommittee opened a hearing into the hazards of pesticides. Dr. Jerome Weiner, chairman of the President's Science Advisory Committee, will be the leadoff witness.

BABIES — Legislation to end black market and "grey market" traffic in babies was introduced in the Senate. Sen. Estes Kefauver, D-Tenn., offered the legislation for himself, delinquency subcommittee Chairman Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn., and Sen. Philip A. Hart, D-Mich. Selling babies interstate is not now a federal crime.

RATINGS — A trade association executive told Congress that his group hoped to begin a \$200,000 study in September of techniques used to measure radio listening. Edmund C. Bunker, president of the Radio Advertising Bureau, charged that current methods used by broadcast rating services seriously underestimated the number of Americans who listen to radios.

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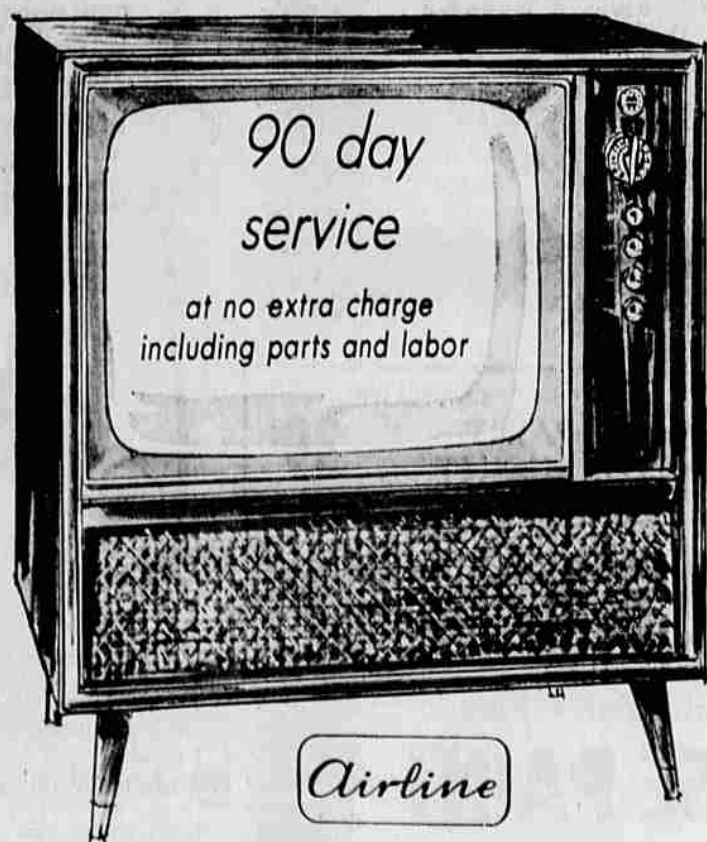
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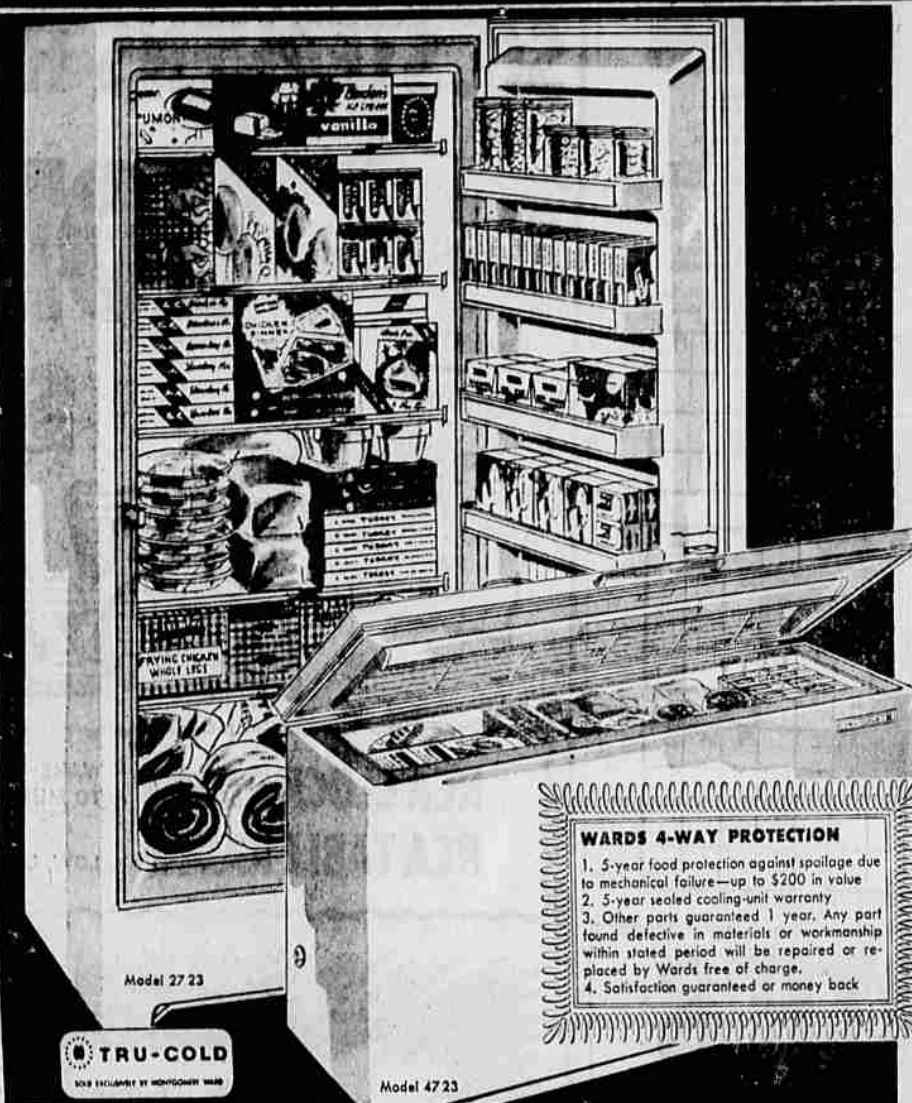
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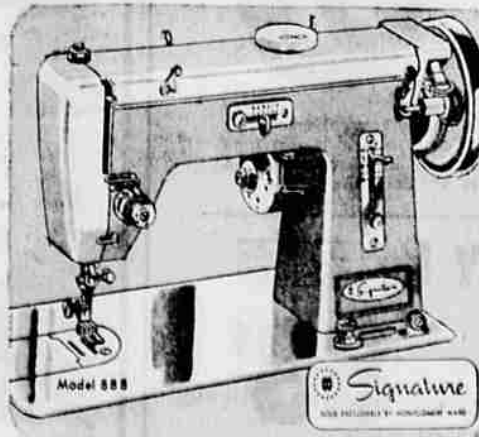
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