

Editorial Page

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1963

Reaction To Federal Taxation Cited

One of the most interesting statements being made in current discussions over the Oct. 15 state tax referendum is that the rebellion is a reaction against federal, as well as state, taxes.

It's understandable. Because the taxpayers have no direct way of rebelling against federal taxes, many probably feel this is the next best thing to it.

If this reaction against federal taxation is widespread, it is too bad the state must be the victim. At the same time, a strong reaction against federal taxation is not surprising.

One of the reasons the reaction has been so long in coming is the withholding method of extracting the tax.

The person who invented the withholding tax was a genius. By its use, a national government has been able to raise more money than any in history while still keeping the tax paying population comparatively happy.

Because the tax is withheld every pay day, the taxpayer is lulled almost to the point where he does not consciously consider this part of his pay.

Because it is so easy to raise funds from the taxpayer this way, the Congress has found it fairly easy to justify government's continually rising expenditures.

A good reflection of the rise in federal government costs is the federal payroll. At present it costs approximately \$16 billion a year to meet the civilian federal

government employe payroll alone. The figure does not include the \$13.1 billion military payroll.

This civilian payroll is about half again as much as it was a decade ago.

The fiscal 1964 budget will add another 36,000 to the 21 1/2 million civilian workers now employed by the federal government. One congressman figured this would be adding workers at the rate of one every 15 minutes of the day for the year. Adding even more cost is the series of pay raises being asked by the President for federal employes. Among the possible pay increases are suggestions for raises to congressmen (from \$22,500 to \$35,000 a year) and Supreme Court members (from \$35,000 to \$60,000).

A general public reaction is probably the only way to put a brake on the spiraling costs. Perhaps the referendum is one indication of that reaction in Oregon. If it is, the reaction is misdirected. It should be directed toward a campaign by mail and telegram to congressmen.

Oregon Tax Research, a state taxpayer association, has come up with an idea which it says might spur such action against the rise in federal costs.

In the form of a question it says, "Wonder what would happen if withholding were limited to one-tenth of 1 per cent just enough to establish the liability? Betcha more people would be aware of the total cost of government and their individual contribution."

Opinions From Readers

Proponents Of Tax Bill Need Facts, Not Threats

To The Editor:

On a Sept. 17 television news-cast, they played a tape of Mr. Fliegel (State Sen. Al Fliegel) in which he said no one in the \$10,000-to-\$15,000 income bracket would get hurt by the tax measure enacted by the last session of the legislature. By leaving out those people below and above those figures, does he mean those people will get hurt?

While no one seems to say the voters do not have a right to vote on this measure, yet many officials have pointed out the terrible results if the voters turn down the measure—pointed them out in terms that amount to threats against the people of Oregon.

One should vote as he wishes and disregard threats of any kind.

In my opinion, those people who are in favor of this measure should find a way to tell the public why they favor the measure. As taxpayers themselves, if they can see reasons why tax increases are necessary at this time, it is possible others can also see those reasons if they are pointed out.

So far, the public has had only threats of higher property taxes, cuts in the basic school support, and a raise in tuition at state colleges.

The Board of Higher Education must at some time learn that costly buildings do not contribute to education. It is my conviction that the pampered rot of today would be much better if he had to root for an education.

Joseph B. Hulise
Star Route Box 14
Winston, Ore.

Reader Says Why Not Cut Employee Numbers

To The Editor:

I have just read the news release dated "Salem (UPI)" in which Mr. Freeman Holmer listed the cuts that would have to be made if the people voted down the tax measure on Oct. 15.

The total cuts he listed amounted to \$38.4 million. Nowhere has anyone writing in favor of the tax measure ever mentioned cutting off the 1,800 new employes that the legislature placed on the payrolls or cutting of the salary raises allowed our poor, underpaid state officials.

Mr. Holmer shed great teras over the cuts to welfare and mental health but seems to think that we need 1,800 new employes worse than we need welfare and mental health. Is it more important that these healthy and mentally alert people have their place at the food trough than that the needy and ill be taken care of?

I spent most of my working years in the school room trying to help our boys and girls get an education and am for good schools, but why try to scare the people by statements that if the law is voted down the schools will have to make drastic cuts this year or resort to vouchers that they will have to tax themselves next year to pay.

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(This statement was also carried in your paper).

Everyone knows that the school budgets were voted on and approved before the passage of this law by the legislature and were based on the money appropriated by the legislature two years before. So why not tell the people this?

If the law is defeated we may be asked to vote more property tax next spring if the legislature does not meet and find another source of revenue. If the legislature does not increase the basic school fund by a new law there would not be any cut in this fund unless the legislature should meet and pass a law cutting this fund. The old law would remain in force.

Next spring the people would have the choice of increasing the property tax or holding our schools where they are now (which is not so terribly bad). The cost of schools has gone up faster than the income of the people, and we are going to have to hold the line or increase the people's income. To hold the line one year might be a good thing as it would show the schools (boards and superintendents) that there is a limit to the people's ability to meet continuous and rapid cost increases.

How much of the 50 millions increase in taxes is represented by the increase in the basic school support? Much less than the amount required to pay the new employes and increase salaries. Why doesn't someone give the people a detailed statement of how the increase is to be used? This has not been done because they know what the people would do on Oct. 15.

Chas. P. Garrett
Umpqua Rt. Box 17
Oakland, Ore.

'Instant Equality' Won't Solve Negro's Problems

To The Editor:

Would you please clarify this matter of equality for me?

I know by now that the entire Negro race is obsessed by the need to be equal to the white man. But which white man? One of the Kennedy elite, maybe? Or would one of the gentlemen in leisure, all white, who inhabits the hobo jungle down by the tracks, serve as a parallel of equality?

I believe I would rather have the opportunity to make of myself whatever I could than to accept, blindly, an unearned equality.

If equality were a requirement, I would immediately cease my struggle to learn to write, so that I could become a world renowned author, for where would be my glory if everyone else were the same as I?

So far, I'm a consistent failure, but that isn't due to discrimination. It's just that I don't know the right people. (The fact that I don't write well enough has nothing to do with it. I read a lot of stuff that isn't good enough to print.) Every Negro that can read and write has an opportunity equal to mine.

I don't see why any Negro would expect me to give to him what I have worked for just because my great-great grandfather whipped his great-great grandfather with a black snake whip. I'm sure if I had been there I would have tried to show him the error of his ways. That was then. Now most people will give credit where credit is due. A Negro who earns respectability and wealth can enjoy it the same as a white man. No one gives the white man anything He

SELLING LIKE HOTCAKES
LONDON, England (UPI)—The government stationery office reported today that a record 103,000 copies of the Denning report on the Profumo scandal has been sold since its publication two days ago.

has to earn it. A Negro, to be equal, would have to earn his good name.

People, such as Governor Wallace, who won't give the Negro a chance to prove himself, are cruelly wrong, but a Negro who is turned away because he is unqualified shouldn't cry "discrimination." An unqualified white man would be turned away, too.

Negroes are not the only people to be discriminated against! How about the Indians, Mexicans, Chinese, Jews, Italians and the "Ary-ies" and "Okies"? How about the discriminations in religion? Would throwing a temper fit make the Jew equal in the eyes of the Catholic? It doesn't help the Negro in the eyes of the white man, either.

I'm all for equal opportunity, regardless of race or creed. After all, the world's a big place, but if I were a Negro, I'd be scared to death of "instant equality" until someone told me with whom I was going to be equal.

J. Goetz
945 SE Terrace Ave.
Roseburg, Ore.

In Days Gone By

Review
Taken from the files of the News-

40 YEARS AGO
Sept. 30, 1923

Judge J. W. Hamilton, president of the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce, reports that response to the appeal for funds to maintain the Umpqua Valley Cannery and to the stock sale which was conducted, was very satisfactory.

The Concord company of the National Guard arrived in Spruce Pine, N.C., today to augment militiamen as the result of a smoldering race feeling, which resulted in sporadic shooting last night.

Miller Huggins, manager of the New York Yankees, will lead his men this season in their third successive attempt to win the world's baseball championship. Babe Ruth, "Babe" as a 10-year-old schoolboy for the last two years has become Huggins' greatest player this year.

25 YEARS AGO
Sept. 30, 1938

With an agreement reached for evacuation of the Sudetenland, German military units were ready to goose-step into the zone after midnight.

Coach Jim Watts' Roseburg High School football team will open the season tonight at Finlay Field against a strong Reedsport squad.

Appointive state officials breathed more easily today after Charles A. Sprague, GOP gubernatorial candidate, opened the campaign with a promise he would not fire efficient appointees merely for political reasons, if he were elected.

10 YEARS AGO
Sept. 30, 1953

President Eisenhower today named former California Gov. Earl Warren chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Jake Leicht, former University of Oregon All-American football player, has been named Douglas County parole officer, succeeding Don C. Lovell.

The New York Yankees won the first game of the World Series today by tripping the Brooklyn Dodgers, 9-5. A homer by Joe Collins in the seventh inning broke a 3-3 tie.

Bob Duhan of Portland is packing the Roseburg Open Golf Tournament with a 36-hole total of 132.



Hangnail Ignored In Space Hurry

By ROBERT C. RUARK

With all our faults, we Americans are indeed a magnificent race of hopeful hedonists — a little daff, perhaps; impractical, yes; but, by golly, we got heart.

We are hard at work at the moment on a space ferry, designed to bring back a 10-man load from a space station, after a 30-day hitch, and also for "short ferry missions" between earth and nearby orbits.

It is a cute little machine, round-bellied, baglike, and it is called a "lifting body." So far it has been lifted into a really wicked orbit—it has been towed behind automobiles, and has flown as high as 15 feet off the ground. One of these days they'll tow it with a DC-3. Wow! One of these other days it'll get dropped out of the belly of a B-52 bomber — as soon, of course, as funds are available.

You can't see the space agency boys don't take their work seriously.

Snow Still Troublesome
Meanwhile, back on the earth, it is still impossible to get the streets of New York clear of snow if anything more than an inch happens to dust the boulevards. Traffic is impossible in even a

fine mist of rain. All taxis go off duty promptly at 4 p.m. The buses bunch together like breeding elephants. Consolidated Edison is everywhere. The streets are gaping canyons. Vast prehistoric monstrosities of machines hoist things to buildings that never seem to get finished. The sidewalks are seas of mud.

According to some recent statistics, more automobiles than people are born annually in the United States — by about three million. There are 22 cars for every mile of road. It will need nearly 20 years for the human birth rate to catch up with Detroit's maternity ward.

The highways are nightmares of weekend traffic — leaving and returning. The air strips become obsolescent before they get the fancy first-class lounges decorated. In most big jet strips you walk miles before you achieve Gate 13. And you can't get a taxi uptown for downtown until after 10 a.m. of a weekday morning.

Traffic Spurred
It is almost impossible to move a vehicle in Rome or London. Paris is a nightmare of traffic. The roads of Spain and France and England are littered with the

carcasses of murdered cars, and clamorous with the shrieking klaxons of Frenchmen who are trying to forget the Maginot Line and Algeria the hard way.

London has its killer fog. Los Angeles just has fog. The common cold afflicts us. Cigarettes either do or do not contribute to cancer. The bathtub beckons ever to the grave, and some people get indigestion from orange juice, skin cancer from sunshine, and athlete's foot from exercise. Nobody has really solved the slipped disk, and you just can't get servants any more, darling. Volka does SO smell on your breath.

Weather Lousy
The weather is lousy all over, and nobody does anything to improve it. Male cosmetics are tremendously up in volume, and a lady sat next to me in a barber-shop the other day. Barber says he gets a lot of ladies now. Pregnant ladies are now being used as glamor advertisements for liquor ads. Gin makes you thin?

But, meanwhile, we have a different set of rules for liquor advertising, due to various state regulations, so you can't shriek the merits of Old Sweatshirt over the TV, although babies cry for the beer bottles which have become identified with sports, and wait for that little old winemaker's product. Whatever happened to Fletcher's Castoria?

Athletes have it very tough. It's not enough to go oh-for-five in the second game, but Muscles McGoo also cut himself shaving for the razor-blade ad. That greasy kid stuff has become a way of life. I usually employ it as a sandwich spread, or did I mix up the commercial?

The hangnail persists, and not even Ben Casey can cure a real stout case of gastric fit. They say air-conditioning filters out the used air, and that is not so. It just grinds it up, like old razor blades, and pumps it back into your lungs.

We police the world, and some of our own cops rob houses and sell guns to crooks. We give money to everyone and moan about having none of our own. But we are stout-hearted men, brimming with vigah.

We are going to make that space commuter work even if nobody washed the glass on the skyscrapers or curbs a dog for years and years and years. We are forward-looking, even if we do build billboards to obscure the view. (Copyright, 1963 by United Feature Synd. Inc.)

The Almanac

Today is Monday, Sept. 30, the 273rd day of 1963 with 92 to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase. The morning star is Jupiter. The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

On this day in history: In 1938, Germany, France, Britain and Italy met in Munich for the conference which British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain said promised "peace in our time."

In 1946, 22 German Nazi leaders were found guilty of war crimes in Nuremberg and 11 were sentenced to death.

In 1953, President Eisenhower appointed Earl Warren of California as chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1962, two persons were killed as riots attending the integration of the University of Mississippi broke out.

A thought for the day — George Moore, the Irish novelist, said: "After all there is but one race — humanity."

The Editor's Corner

By Charles V. Stanton

Proposal With Conservation Label Has Built-In Support

A bill has been introduced into Congress by Rep. Aspinall of Colorado to obtain congressional approval of changes in status of public lands. If passed, the bill would require prior congressional notification of public land actions until June 30, 1968. This presumably is the period during which a Public Land Law Review Commission would be studying public land laws.

The provisions of the bill would give congressional groups time to block any administrative actions of which they might not approve.

It would require that Congress be notified of any changes in use or status of public lands involving more than 2,500 acres.

The notification would constitute a detailed report on the effect of the proposed action, including a discussion on the operation of the public land laws, the mining and mineral leasing laws and laws and regulations relating to the conservation, utilization and development of mineral, timber and other material resources; grazing, fish, wildlife and water resources; and scenic, wilderness, recreation and other values.

Here is a bit of legislation that could work two ways. Whether its merits outweigh its advantages is a question.

Conservation has become an outstanding political football. Few people know the essential principles of conservation, but everyone is for it. A politician, then, needs only to brand his pet project with the label "conservation" and immediately he has a built-in support, because everyone favors conservation.

Consequently, we find a great many things being done under the name of "conservation" when conservation, which means "wise use," actually is ignored.

The federal government apparently is seeking to get all public land operations under one management. There are some good arguments to favor this plan. On the other hand, a department or agency with the country's land and timber resources firmly in control could be a political machine of the first order.

Then, taking the other side of the coin, interference by Congress could adversely affect any "wise use" of our public domain.

Political leaders, including legislators and congressmen, aren't always favorable to conservation programs. Instead, they are influenced by votes. For example, one of the great needs in this country today is a law that would limit mining operations to subsurface rights. It has been possible for a miner to file a claim, procure a patent, then take valuable timber off the property. Time and again bills have been introduced into Congress to stop this "steal." But the mining bill has prevented the needed regulation from being passed.

Grazing interests have succeeded in exerting sufficient pressure on Congress to prevent needed improvements in the regulations concerning public domain administered through the Taylor Grazing Act. Only a few months ago we experienced a controversy between the President of the Izaak Walton League of America and Oregon's Senator Morse concerning grazing land procedure in Oregon. Senator Morse got the votes he wanted. Since the election the matter has been settled in amicable fashion.

The state of California spent a large sum of money to get an impartial study of the management policy concerning the interstate herd of deer along the border between Klamath County, Oregon, and Modoc County, California. But prominent California legislators have completely discounted the

supposedly impartial findings. Hunters and cattlemen can't agree on policies of herd management. Politicians look to these people for votes. That, then, leads us to a question which, to use an old phrase, puts us "between the devil and the deep blue sea."

Is it better to put all our public land resources into the hands of an agency responsible to the administration (putting the resources at the mercy of power politics) or, give the power of approval or disapproval to a Congress that time and again has shown a willingness to surrender "wise use" to the desires of a voting bloc.



FIRE HURTS

Forest fires destroy the food and homes of countless animals. Fires burn up millions of dollars each year in natural resources. It costs your country more than a hundred million dollars a year just to fight forest fires — a high price to pay for carelessness! Yes — nine out of every ten forest fires are caused by man. That sad knowledge is what hurts most of all.

Do your part to help. Follow Smokey's ABC's.

Always break matches in two. Be sure you throw all fires out. Crush all smokes dead in an ash tray.



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