Editorial Page

Sales Tax Comes Into Focus Again

The sales tax has come inexorably back into the state's financial picture.

The Legislative Interim Committee on Taxation is scheduled to discuss a 3 per cent sales tax which would be referred to the people.

It had already decided to prepare such a sales tax program for the 1965 legislature, but since the sales tax issue was injected into the recent referendum campaign, the committee is considering an introduction of the issue at the Nov. 11 special session.

Some Republicans want it passed at the special session and put on the primary election ballot next May. Judging from past statements, the Douglas County delegation might be willing to go along with this step. Both Rep. Sidney Leiken and Sen. Al Flegel say they will only be willing to consider a sales tax if it is tied to a referral.

Oregon Tax Research, a non-partisan tax study organization, has recently been making a study of the effects of such a tax.

Here are some of the preliminary findings of the study:

1. It is estimated that a 3 per cent sales tax based on an estimated volume of all business in 1962 would have produced a minimum of $73 million and a maximum of $79.75 million. Of this total $2 million to $2½ million would have been gathered from tourists.

2. When applied to expenditures out of income only, the rate of tax is modestly progressive to about the $4,000 income level when food is taxed and is only mildly regressive on incomes above that amount. Surprisingly, it finds that contrary to patterns often developed in such studies, with food exempt, the tax is shown to be moderately progressive in each bracket. Both before and after taxes, the highest income group would pay an effective rate of about 2½ times that of the lowest income class.

Computed on before-tax income, the $1-2,000 class would be subject to a tax of .40 per cent, ranging up to a rate of .95 per cent in the $10-15,000 class. On after-tax income, the variation from the same low to the same high in income is .45 to 1.15 per cent.

3. Possible payments on a 3 per cent sales tax on income of various classes included these estimates by the tax researchers: With a 3 per cent tax on all items including food, a person in the $1-2,000 class would probably pay about $24; in the $5-7,000 class it would be $84; in the $10-15,000, it would be $160.

With food exempt, the figures would be approximately $6 for the $1-2,000 class; $36 for the $5-7,000 class; and $111 for the $10-15,000 class.

These are only comparative figures, as the publishers of the Oregon Tax Research report freely admits, but it is a beginning point for some reasonable conclusions.

The study has not yet reached the point of developing revenue estimates from which proposals to reduce both property and income taxes can be evaluated.

News Analysis

Politics Plague Prosperous Italy

On the surface, Italians never had had it so good.

Wages were up and sales of automobiles, refrigerators and television sets were booming.

Unemployment — not counting the unemployables — was down almost to zero.

And of the nations of Western Europe, only West Germany and France had more money in the bank.

But underneath there was trouble, some of it due to the very factors mentioned above and some of it political wherein Italy's large Communist party saw its greatest chance since 1948.

Events of the next few weeks would determine Italy's immediate future.

Italy's troubles were intertwined.

Politically, the question was whether Italy's largest political party, the Christian Democrats, could or would renew its partnership with the left-wing Socialists of Pietro Nenni to set up a governing center-left coalition. A previous attempt under former Premier Amintore Fanfani collapsed after last April 28 elections in which the Communists picked up a million votes.

Socialists In Middle

Caught in the ensuing tug-of-war were the Nenni socialists who in their party congress this week will be asked to decide whether to continue their ties with the Communist party or to accept a sufficiently moderate stand as to permit renewal of their partnership with the Christian Democrats.

The Communist part in the campaign followed a familiar pattern of strikes and violence, including one particularly violent demonstration in Rome and resulting injury to 155 Roman police.

A pawn in the struggle is the Italian economy whose rise has been among the most spectacular of all the European Common Market countries.

Part of the price paid by the Christian Democrats in the last experiments with center - left government was agreement to Socialist demands for nationalization of the electric power industry.

Private Money Flees

The result was an investment panic which saw capital investment fall a quarter of a billion dollars below estimates and a flight of money to Switzerland.

At the same time, a tight labor market touched off a wage-price spiral which in turn started a consumer boom.

Consumer spending continues to be the largest single factor in the Italian economy but also continues to be a mixed blessing. This year for the first time since the 1950's Italy will show a deficit in its balance of payments as result of the heavy flow of imports.

The Communists have refused to tie wages with the increase in national production and have demanded that the Socialists join with them in what could be a calamitous attack on both the economy and any new government.

The stopgap government of Premier Giovanni Leone is to step down within the next two weeks to make way for what still is expected to be a coalition of Christian Democrats and Socialists.

An alternative would be new general elections and along with them the spectre of possible new Communist gains.

Dillard Carnival Saturday Event

The annual carnival sponsored by the Dillard School PTA will be held at the school Saturday, starting with dinner from 5 to 8 p.m.

According to Phebe McGuire, correspondent, the event will provide a large assortment of booths providing fun for the entire family. Among those featured will be a "shaving balloon" booth, fish pond, cake walk, a "Kiddie's Korner" and many other attractions.

Mrs. Bill Winston, ways and means chairman, is in charge of the carnival and is being assisted by room mothers, the executive board and Mrs. Opal Hall, president.

Funds raised will be used to purchase a name sign for the school. Other beneficial projects provided each year by the group are a scholarship to a high school graduating student and paying incidental expenses essential to operating the school, Mrs. McGuire said.

Anyone having white elephants to donate for the booths may contact Mrs. Bill Winston, 679-5860 or deliver them to the school.

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"—and There's Where El Presidente Lives When We Have One"

ROSS LEWIS, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL

Opinions From Readers

No Reason For Chaos If Officials Do Duty

To The Editor:

Today I was shown a copy of Charley Stanton's column that I had missed reading. I ask this opportunity to comment on it.

I too am a "nut" because of my sincere belief in a representative form of government, and a strict division of duties according to our Constitution. Benjamin Franklin said that was the form of government we had, but added the words "if we can keep it that way."

Mr. Stanton feels that the referral action on this budget is a rejection of that principle of representative government, that our remedy lies not in attacking the legislative action but in replacing the people who act in a manner contrary to our opinion. I agree with him in principle and admire his stand, but would like to note, too, what I call fallacies: First, we have not been able "to keep it that way." We elect representatives who say they will do one thing, get elected, then do something else. The Governor had the chance, and it was his duty, according to this principle, to have vetoed the budget, the way he said he felt about it. He evidently did not have the courage to do his duty.

Our Constitution says the decision rests with "the governed" and it is their duty "to change or alter it." Down through the history of this great nation it has been necessary at times for the people to signify by grass root movements that their wishes have not been considered by the men they elected.

If anyone can devise a plan, method or procedure that will prevent this miscarriage of constitutional rights, other than the referral plan that is built into this great document of ours, the Constitution of the United States of America, and our state constitution, that will work any better over a period of time, I will be very glad to endorse it, and I am sure the John Birch Society (JBS) will back it 100 per cent also.

One fact stands out, it has often been spoken and written but never challenged, that is comparatively easy to stop a bad proposal from becoming a law, but it is almost impossible to get a bad law rescinded. This is need enough for this referral when our elected officials do not do their duty.

I will also admit one phase of the JBS is the slogan "This is a republic, let's keep it that way." As I said before Mr. Franklin said "if". Mr. Stanton says we are rejecting this principle because we were in vigorous opposition to the budget. It is true many of us, as individuals, were opposed to this budget because of the other part of the Constitution that I mentioned.

But who was pushing it — and who was going along? The JBS is very weak in Oregon and it is indeed a compliment that we have any great influence on the voters. I don't believe Francyl Howard is a John Bircher. There are not six John Birchers in Yoncalla, there are not six of them in Cottage Grove. There is not a dozen and a half in the city of Roseburg and very few in Eugene. There are none that I know of in Curtin, Drain, Elkton, Oakland, Sutherlin or Winston. Yet the budget was voted down 4 to 1 in these places. This should make it amply clear that this was not a John Birch movement. We are glad that there are this many conservatives in this county and state and do extend to them the invitation to become acquainted with our principles and efforts to return to the "American Way" of life. life.

It is directly contrary to our society's directives to campaign in any state politics. One of our co-ordinators got fired for such action last year. No, the John Birch Society did not endorse this referral, but the people of Oregon did. As individuals, as citizens and legal voters, many of us went along with it and voted "no." I did, as a citizen, just like the majority of Oregon citizens, who are not John Bircher's, did last Tuesday.

There is no reason for any "chaos" that was mentioned if these elected representatives do their duty as the people of Oregon said very definitely last Tuesday. It is simply less taxes. The legislators are the ones who will make it complicated if they insist on resisting the mandate of the people.

Stacy Adams
Box 427
Yoncalla, Oregon 97499

Erosion Factor Cited In Burning Of Pasture

To The Editor:

Mr. Wayne Mosher is undoubtedly right when he says that "our livestock ranchers" know what they are doing when they repeatedly burn the land, however it is obvious that he speaks for only a minority of them. The question that concerns me and other conservation minded people is do Mr. Mosher and his stockmen realize the consequences of what they are doing?

Do they know that results of scientific investigations state: "Records of streamflow from burned and unburned watersheds show that the first year after burning, peak flood flows are increased two to 30 times depending on the size of the storm. Peak flows from burned areas do not return to normal until 20 to 60 years after a fire. Annual erosion rates are increased on the average, about 35 times the first year after a burn and eight to ten years are required for erosion rates to return to normal." I just can't reconcile such facts with our County Agent's statement that: "They (ranchers) are doing a good job of managing the land they have," at least, when they repeatedly burn the same area.

Dr. Phillip Haddock of the University of British Columbia reported to the Northwest Scientific Association at its annual meeting last winter that his year's work in Greece convinced him that the hill lands of that country have been rendered so sterile and unproductive by burning to try to make better pastures that it will be uneconomic if not impossible to restore for many generations to come the soils so that they can produce more than useless brush. History records that China's starving millions are largely the result of ripping and burning the native vegetative cover from the hills and mountains. The Bible tells, and is supported by archeaological discoveries, of vinyards and olive orchards throughout the middle east where today only eroded, rock strewn hills yield low grade brush for nomadic Arabs and their flocks of goats.

It can't happen here!? Erosion is like an insiduous cancer, unnoticed until too late. In the comparatively mild storm early this fall there were erosion rills covering the steeper hillsides of the cleared area along the North Umpqua highway. The soil loss from this one rain undoubtedly would run into thousands of tons of fertile topsoil and as previously indicated the organic matter and plant food minerals wash and leach off the fields with every storm.

No forester, conservationist nor land use specialist would object to one clean-up burn to eliminate useless brush if that were the only means of doing it. That is, if the soil and land had been properly surveyed and classified as being more suitable for pasture than for brush or timber. However, except in the limited areas of soil conservation districts there are no soil maps nor land classification standards for our hill lands in Douglas County.

Field experiments by the U.S. Forest Service in southern Oregon have shown that one burn, followed by proper use of modern herbicides can effectively control brush on forest lands. This practice would be much simpler on the more accessible range and pasture lands. Again, this assumes that there is no better way of clearing the land for better crops. Nowhere in the range and pasture bulletins from our State Agricultural Experiment Station or the Cooperative Extension Service can I find recommended, the repeated use of fire as a technique for improving pastures.

Mr. Mosher is so right, I, along with other foresters and conservationists do not like fire. We like its consequences even less! However, the implication that we do not understand the situation and problems is like the old saying — the pot calling the kettle black. Foresters are land management specialists trained to plan and administer the multiple uses of the non-agricultural lands and their resources including watershed, recreation, wildlife and range a well as timber. Foresters are the architects of the multiple use concept for the proper management of the lands and resources of this nation.

Need I remind anyone in this county that well over half of the entire county budget comes from timber sale receipts from federal lands? Also, that just one large independent mill south of Roseburg employs almost as many people as all the farmers in the county? Further, that this same mill pays out annually in salaries and wages alone more than the entire agricultural income of Douglas County? This should cause all readers to reflect seriously on whether we can afford to continue to play with fire for peanuts, especially when there are more effective ways of converting brush fields to usable crops without the proven damages fire causes to our basic resource—soil.

I know of Mr. Mosher's "burning" zeal in his chosen field and of his fine reputation for outstanding extension work. If he would like to broaden his horizons I will be happy to supply the sources of my information. I do thank him for his reference to my experience. I did and do say the things I have on this subject because of that broad experience extending over five of the western states and including, I might add, eight years in charge of range and pasture programs while with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Foresters have a saying that "one can't see the forest for the trees" when an individual loses perspective and dwells too long on trivia. Can it be that our pasture programs have failed to keep abreast of modern technology, that due to the smoke they can't see the broader picture? Many years ago Daniel Webster spoke forcibly for the broad view when he said:

"Let us develop the resources of our lands. Call forth its powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great interests. And see whether we also, in our day and generation, may not perform something worthy to be remembered."

Lee O. Hunt
Star Rte. Box 219
Winston, Oregon

Eugene Event Attended By Canyonville Couple

Mr. and Mrs. Norman York of Canyonville attended a surprise farewell dinner at Eugene Wednesday evening honoring Mrs. York's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Gibson, who are retiring from business there and leaving for an extended Southwestern vacation.

Among the Canyonville high alumni coming home over the weekend were Mrs. Mike Patrick, Dick Richey, Don Kipers and Mickey Yakel, all Southern Oregon College students.

Recent guests at Forest Glen Senior Residence include Robert Edwards of Corvallis who visited with his mother, Mrs. H. H. Miles, for a few hours Friday and Mr. and Mrs. John Benson of Roseburg who are visiting the Frank Browns, correspondent Mrs. R. E. Proctor reports.

In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of The News-Review

40 YEARS AGO
Oct. 24, 1923

The first annual meeting of the Star Car Dealers' Association of the Pacific Coast was held in the Hotel Oakland on Oct. 4 and was attended by more than 200 of the distributors and dealers of the Star Motor Co. of California.

Ray, Roy and Hugh D'utremont alleged train robbers, got a total of $150,000 in gold bullion that was on its way to the mint at San Francisco, according to reports current in Yreka. The bandits were reportedly still at large today.

25 YEARS AGO
Oct. 24, 1938

Douglas Pomona Grange will meet at the Riddle Grange Hall Saturday, Oct. 28. An all-day meeting has been arranged, starting with a business session at 10 a.m. plans are to be made for the Douglas County banquet which will be one of the events at the national Grange convention to be held in Portland Nov. 16 to 24.

Among those noted speakers to appear at the Portland convention are Henry A. Wallace, national secretary of agriculture, and M. L. Hill, assistant secretary.

10 YEARS AGO
Oct. 24, 1953

The magnificent United States Navy Band thrilled a packed audience to its toes Friday night in a concert at the Roseburg Senior High School. The band, in its two-hour presentation of classical and popular selections, featured two soloists. Chuck Ricketts, Roseburg, acted as guest conductor, and did a good job of it, leading the band in "National Emblem March."

THE LIGHTER SIDE:

Can't Win 'Em All, Poet Finds

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Marianne Moore is one of America's best known poets. Which means that most Americans never heard of her.

In this country, alas, the names of poets rarely become household words, even in their own households. And that is a pity.

I'm not terribly fond of poetry myself, but the poets I've met have all been grade A human beings. It's too bad there isn't some way to give them more recognition, short of reading their poetry.

Miss Moore, who will soon be 76, has been in the public eye more than most major poets on account of her association with two enterprises that have since become extinct.

In 1955, Miss Moore, an ardent baseball fan, summoned the muses from the bull pen and batted out an ode to the Brooklyn Dodgers. It was called "Hometown Piece for Messrs. Alston and Reese."

Considering the kind of teams that Brooklyn used to have, this salute from a Pulitzer Prize poet was a rare tribute. So what did the Dodgers do to show their appreciation? They moved to Los Angeles, that's what.

I had a chat with Miss Moore this week when she came down from Brooklyn to give a poetry reading at the Library of Congress. She made it plain that she still loves the Dodgers, despite their infidelity.

Yet all of the Dodgers who read Miss Moore's poems probably could stand on third base at the same time. Which sometimes happens.

It also was in the 1950's that Miss Moore was commissioned by the Ford Motor Co. to think up names for a new car it was planning to produce.

The Ford people, after considering her nomination of such poetic names as Silver Sword, Aeroterre and Andante on Moto christened their car Edsel. It didn't last as long as the Dodgers did in Brooklyn.

I asked Miss Moore if she felt the car might have succeeded under one of her names. She replied to the effect that an Edsel by any other name probably would still have been a lemon.

She pointed out, however, that her list included the names Impala and Valiant, which subsequently were adopted by a couple of other auto companies.

So what do poets, baseball clubs and auto makers have in common? Each knows that you can't win 'em all.

Day's News

By Frank Jenkins

Mishmash in the news:

Lord Home, Britain's new prime minister, assembled his cabinet to discuss the problems that lie ahead. One of these problems is that as prime minister he must be a member of the House of Commons.

He ISN'T.

He must get elected first.

So the opening of the fall session of Parliament must be postponed until the new prime minister can get himself elected as a member.

Happily, that isn't as difficult as a similar situation in the United States would be. One of the peculiarities of the British House of Commons is that its members don't have to be elected from the districts where they live. They can toss their hats into the ring in just ANY district that looks the most promising.

So—

It is reported this morning—

He will contest for the election in Kinross, up in Scotland, which is regarded as a "safe" conservative district.

There was another block in the road that had to be removed.

Lord Home was a member of the British peerage. He was an earl. Before he can be elected prime minister he had to become a commoner.

So—

He must shed his earldom. That he was prepared to do. He will ask Queen Elizabeth to postpone the reopening of Parliament, which is scheduled for this month.

Speaking of hats—

The National Hat Council is feeling pretty chesty these days because President Kennedy, who doesn't wear one, came out and admitted the other day that "a man is not well dressed without a hat."

Whether he was influenced by the fact that next year is a Presidential election year is beside the point. His statement brought from one of the TV commentators this crack:

"The modern politician needs three hats—

"One to throw in the ring.

"One to talk through.

"One to pull the rabbits out of."

From Houston, Texas:

A large black horse ran to Wally Franks' house Friday, kicked in a window, knocked an air conditioner down on top of a TV set and then tried to climb in through the window.

Good Lord!

Are the horses beginning to act that way, too?

It's bad enough when only HUMANS carry on like that.

P.S.:

They SHOT the horse.

The Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Thursday, Oct. 24, the 297th day of 1963 with 68 to follow.

The moon is approaching its first quarter.

The morning star is Jupiter.

The evening starsareJupiter

The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

On this day in history:

In 1861, the first telegram was sent across the United States when California's chief justice, Stephen Field, sent a message to President Lincoln in Washington.

In 1901, Mrs. Anna Edson Taylor went over Niagara Falls in a barrel — the first person to survive such a stunt.

In 1945, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, campaigning for the presidency, said if elected he would go to Korea to seek an end to the war there.

A thought for the day — The Scottish essayist, Thomas Carlyle, said: "All work is as seed sown; it grows and spreads, and sows itself anew."

Room Mothers Hold Meeting In Glendale

Room mothers were chosen recently at the Tenmile School to assist the teachers with events to be held during the year. According to Mrs. Walter Coats, correspondent, more room mothers and assistants are still needed. Anyone wishing to help is asked to call Mrs. Ralph Dwight.

Room mothers and assistants recruited thus far include Mrs. H. L. St. Clair, Mrs. Ronald Swift, Mrs. Roy Cornell, Mrs. Donald Standley, Mrs. Lloyd Thomas, Mrs. William Cook, Mrs Charles Payne, Mrs. Glen Good, Mrs. Babe Gardiner, Mrs. Shirley Guhlke, Mrs. Louise Preston, Mrs. Lyndon Lengele, Mrs. Delbert Baker, Mrs. Ray Weaver and Mrs. Dwight.

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