

# Editorial Page

Page 4 The News-Review — TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1963

## Sales Tax Idea Gains Steam

The sales tax movement is growing. A new statewide organization has been formed to put together a sales tax proposal and promote it until next November.

It hopes to get the sales tax measure on the 1964 general election ballot as an initiative measure.

Meanwhile, the talk is still strong for a sales tax bill from the state legislature at its Nov. 11 session. Most spokesmen from the two houses seem to be toying with the idea of putting together a tax and referring it to the people. To expedite this move, if it gets by strong opposition in the House and Senate, the legislative Interim Committee is studying a possible sales tax measure which might be introduced at the special session. It has intended to introduce the proposal at the 1965 regular session.

Other groups, too, are studying possible measures.

The new group announcing its sales tax intentions is called the Income and Property Tax Relief Committee. Its acting chairman is Norman L. Easley of Portland.

He has outlined this schedule of attack. "It is planned to have petitions ready for circulation early next year. Preparation of the bill is expected to take at least three months. We have already started research to gather basic information. After

agreement is reached on principles to be embodied, a group of experts will assist in drafting the measure."

Easley says he is committing himself to the effort "because I am convinced Oregon faces a bleak future unless we overhaul our tax structure." He says the high level of education and other government services has placed "a heavy burden on property and income, and has become a major obstacle to economic growth."

Easley sees the recent rejection of the state budget and income tax proposal as an indication the people might want another type of tax to keep state services and still offer reductions in property and income taxes.

This is an interesting movement in light of the frequent rejection of the sales tax by voters in past years. Now, more and more people are seeing the thunderous vote against the budget and income tax increase Nov. 11 as a signal that the voters are changing their minds about the sales tax.

It's almost certain the voters will get another chance to make a decision on the matter within the next year. The legislature doesn't seem about to take the responsibility of passing a sales tax law without the people's consent.

## Timber Salvage Picture Brighter

Salvage operations of Oregon's Columbus Day 1962 blowdown timber is progressing at a rapid rate.

The U. S. Forest Service reports it has sold about 80 per cent of the two billion board feet which was knocked down by the big wind. Regional Forester J. Herbert Stone said about 450 million board feet remain to be sold.

This puts the Forest Service over the hump. Now the big job is getting the timber out of the woods before expected attack of bark beetles next summer. An optimistic note is even seen here, however. Stone says he estimates 75 per cent of the total salvageable blowdown will have been harvested by May 30, if bad weather doesn't interfere.

## "The Trouble Is, Doc, I Can't Tell Whether It's a Nightmare or a Premonition"



## THE LIGHTER SIDE:



## World's Safety Seen In Leaves

By DICK WEST  
WASHINGTON (UPI) — One of the comic strips I read has a dog named Snoopy who spends his time watching leaves fall from trees. I should never read comic strips.

Their power of suggestion is so strong that Snoopy's dog got me doing it. In fact, overdoing it. The plain truth is that I have become addicted to leaf watching.

Once a person gets hooked on something like this, it is almost impossible to kick the habit. Moreover, he must try to conquer it alone, there being no organization, such as falling leaf watchers anonymous, that he can turn to.

And no matter how hard he might try to hide his weakness, little tell-tale signs will give him away.

If you have a friend or relative who stands out in the yard at night with a flashlight hoping to see one last leaf fall before bedtime, you can be certain that he's a conner.

The terrible thing about a falling leaf fixation is that the leaf falling season is so short. Soon they will all be gone, leaving long, bleak months of nothingness ahead.

It is possible, or course, to hire someone to climb a tree and toss down some confetti, but it wouldn't be the same.

While waiting for the next leaf to fall, leaf watchers occupy the time with musing and meditation. I normally meditate upon what a shame it is for all of those leaves to go to waste.

Over the years there has been a lot of talk about using the great tides of Passamaquoddy Bay as a source of useful energy. Well, it occurred to me that there might also be a way to harness the energy produced by falling leaves.

### Has Possibilities

It is true that a single leaf doesn't produce much energy, but when you consider the millions of leaves that fall each autumn you can see the possibilities.

I also meditate on ways to make use of leaves after they have fallen. Leaves burn well, so why couldn't they be compressed into briquettes and put on the cookout market in competition with charcoal?

If someone wants to try that, I know where they can pick up a lot of leaves — cheap.

Another bright potential is the use of leaves as a breakfast cereal. Crumpled up in a bowl with a little cream and sugar, they would make a mighty appetizing looking dish.

Leaves might not be nutritious or flavorful, but that is no drawback. Almost every cereal you buy nowadays has nutrition and flavor added.

Finally, labor unions perhaps could use leaves as a substitute for featherbedding.

I trust that someone in authority will get to work on this right away. Autumn leaves can save the world!

## In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of the News-Review

### 40 YEARS AGO

Oct. 29, 1923

More than 100 tons of apples were expected to be put up by a local canning firm from this year's crop which will exceed, or at least equal last year's production. The cannery is canning 20 tons a day with the employment of over 100 persons. The apples, which consist largely of the Spitzenberg variety, are being shipped to points across the nation, with most of them going to San Francisco. The Douglas County tax supervision commission has lopped several thousand dollars from the school district budgets of the county. It is reported the cuts will in no way affect the efficiency of the districts.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Oct. 29, 1938

Just as it is today, so it was 25 years ago — railroads were having their problems. The emergency railroad investigating board recommended today the nation's railroads withdraw their demand for a 15 per cent reduction in wages. The board, appointed by President Roosevelt last month to investigate the rail wage dispute, said that wages of railway labor "are not high even as compared with wages in other comparable industries." The board said it was now up to the President to stop a strike.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Oct. 29, 1953

Douglas County gained its second Rotary Club with the installation of a provisional club Wednesday night at Myrtle Creek by 16 members of the Roseburg club. It will only be provisional until official papers are received from Chicago, world headquarters of the organization. Officers of the new club include Bob Adams, president; Barney Root, vice president; and George O'Mealy, secretary-treasurer. Attending from Roseburg were officers Percy Croft, president, Roland West, Bruce Mellis, and Vic Micelli, and board members.

### OPINION FROM READERS

(Continued)

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in retraining a person to gainful employment, etc. Public welfare is much more than just the granting of financial assistance; there are child welfare services, adoptions, training for the vocational handicapped, counseling for individuals or families with disrupted interpersonal relationships, and other services too numerous to mention.

When a citizen becomes aware of a situation that seems to be an abuse of the welfare program, he has not only the privilege but the responsibility to make his concerns known to the local welfare department or its commission.

**Welfare Described**  
What is public welfare? It is an agency, established by law, to provide programs for those who cannot get along by their own efforts; the children, the elderly, the infirm, the blind and disabled, and to aid those members of society toward greater self-care and self-support; to reduce dependency whenever possible and to strengthen family life. It can do an effective job only when there are sufficient numbers of trained caseworkers to work intensively with these people and a supportive and well-informed public.

Gary L. Loomas,  
Administrator Douglas County Welfare Commission  
P.O. Box 78,  
Roseburg, Ore.

## Church Group Slates Service

The Roseburg United Church Women will present their annual World Community Day Service in the Fellowship Room of the First Presbyterian Church this Friday at 1:30 p.m. The theme for the day will be "Channel to Peace."

The annual business meeting with election of officers will be held at 1:30 followed by the worship service. William Melhoff, a teacher at Riverside School, will show slides from his two-year Peace Corps experience in the Philippines immediately following the worship service. The program will conclude with a tea.

All women in the community are cordially invited to attend, according to Mrs. Allen Ingebritsen, in charge of publicity. Nursery care will be provided for children.

## Laymen Lead Services At Church In Winston

Services for the recent Layman's Sunday held at the Winston Christian Church were conducted by Noel Campbell and Jack Nelson. Assisting with the morning program was a girls' trio from Northwest Christian College in Eugene, one member of the trio being Janet Weber of Winston who is attending the college.

Church board members at a recent meeting took action to raise the annual salary of the minister of the church, according to Phebe McGuire, correspondent.

### JOIN IN PLEA

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and retired Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, American Red Cross president, joined Monday in a plea for everyone to become a "personal diplomat" in the fight for peace by joining the People-to-People Program.

Gruenther gave a progress report on the program at a news conference here in connection with an article Eisenhower wrote for the November issue of Reader's Digest.

## Opinions From Readers

### New Look Requested For Board Standards

To The Editor:

In answer to Sen. Flegel's request in the News-Review last week, here are some of my ideas that may lead to some economy in the schools.

My first suggestion is for the legislature to look into the standards that have been approved by the state Board of Education. These standards are minimum requirements for schools, and the control of these standards rest largely within the local school districts. Many of the districts are above these standards in many respects. The one item that I have in mind at the present time is the expenditure for periodicals (magazines). The requirement for periodicals for schools, employing more than one teacher is two for each classroom. In the Roseburg School budget there is an allowance of 40¢ per child for periodicals. This does not seem like a large amount and perhaps there are many schools that do not spend this much while there are no doubt others which spend more. However, if we take this 40¢ per child as an average and multiply it by every child enrolled in grades 1 through 12 in the state of Oregon we would come up with a pretty large sum of money. This is only one small item. There are no doubt other, larger items that could be trimmed efficiently and successfully.

This next suggestion is to me much more important and a great step forward in education. This is to convert all first grades in the schools into half day kindergarten sessions. One three hour session from nine to twelve in the morning and the next session from one to four in the afternoon with each child going to school only one-half day, or three hours. In this way all children can get the advantage of kindergarten; they can learn to work as a group and to follow directions. The plan would make the adjustment that is necessary for each child starting to school much more effective. The first and second grades as they now stand can be combined into one year that is now the second grade. Almost the entire first half of the second grade is spent in reviewing what the child was to have learned in the first grade as our program stands at this time. This is necessary not because of inefficiency, but because of the great adjustment a child who has been free as a bird must make. He must learn to pay closer attention, sit still for a longer period of time than he wishes and learn to work with others. By having a half day session for the first grade, the teacher can keep his attention more effectively because he does not get so tired. Also one teacher can handle twice as many students as she now teaches, thus reducing the number of teachers needed at this level.

Aptitude training should be encouraged and established in every school possible; that is, dividing the children into classes according to their ability of achievement. For example, one sixth grade teacher can teach 30 students who have the ability to learn at approximately the same level much more easily than she can teach 20 or 25 students who are learning at three or four different levels. By using this method, all students are in the same book

at the same time in the same class. This is not bad psychologically for the slower students, but gives them much more chance for oral recitation in a group that is all at the same level and using the same material. Bear in mind, also, that this low group will undoubtedly be at grade level or slightly below while the other groups are more advanced above the grade level. Thus, each child has the opportunity to achieve to the maximum of his ability. There is no greater challenge than teaching a child; there is no greater reward than to watch that child learn; and, I will add, there is no greater distress than to watch a child turn his head from the vast amount of knowledge that is presented to him every day.

Here in Roseburg, aptitude training has come a long way and very successfully. I hope that it can be attained over the entire state wherever possible. Our Oregon schools rank at the top. Let's keep them that way. If it is necessary to raise the tuition in our colleges, then let us raise it.

Mrs. Marlin (Fernie) Cox  
1676 West Brown  
Roseburg, Ore.

### Woman Raps Practice Of Trick Or Treating

To The Editor:

I, too, am disgusted with the practice of "trick or treat." When they threaten to soap my windows if I don't buy them off, it simply is blackmail.

I used to watch whole carloads of them come when I lived at home. I don't mind the little ones, but I do resent the big ones — 19 or 20-year-olds.

Mothers used to drive children to my place. What kind of people will they raise? I don't blame the children, it's their elders I have a bone to pick with.

Belle Crenshaw  
Central Trailer Court  
Roseburg, Ore.

### Supervisor Of Welfare Replies To Criticism

To The Editor:

The News-Review recently published letters from Mr. R. L. Mickley and Mr. A. M. Cooper, who made critical comments about the welfare program in Oregon. I would like to offer some comments in reply.

M. Mickley in his letter urges the dropping of all able-bodied persons from the welfare rolls. I wonder if the public is aware that single-employable persons are not assisted by welfare commissions in Oregon, unless they have a physical or mental impairment preventing them from engaging in gainful employment. When employable adults are assisted, there are almost always children involved. During periods when harvest work is available families with children are expected to avail themselves of this work.

**Cooper Severe**  
Mr. Cooper is more severe in his criticism. He seems to be advocating that government disinvest itself in any social welfare programs. I assume that he is aware that programs such as Social Security, Unemployment Compensation, Vocational Rehabilitation, State Industrial Accident and, of course, Public Welfare are the result of the development or support of county, state or federal governments.

Instead, Mr. Cooper seems to be promoting something akin to Darwin's theories on survival of the fittest; that a struggle for existence will have a selective effect in removing the unfit. Indeed it is ideal if charity can begin at home, that neighbors help neighbor, that social welfare can be carried by communities rather than by government. In today's complex society, communities are not able to bear the major responsibility for the unfortunate members of society.

In the colonial period and the early beginnings of our country care for the dependent members of society — children, elderly, the sick and disabled — was regarded as the responsibility of the family, backed up by friends, neighbors, and religious groups. By the middle of the 19th century private charity organizations conducted the major responsibility for this care. As social problems became more complex, municipal and state governments started to devise programs and services for the needy.

**System Fails**  
When the depression struck it soon was realized that private organizations were too small to deal adequately with the magnitude of the problem. Even state governments were unable to handle the mass poverty and unemployment. By 1933 it was generally recognized that the federal government must take some direct responsibility. The passage of the Social Security Act of 1935 provided the machinery to help states and localities care for persons already too old and out of the labor market, for unemployment insurance, care for the orphaned and dependent children, child and health services, aid for the aged, blind and vocational rehabilitation programs etc.

This illustrates one of the basic reasons for the existence of government; that is, to protect and provide for it's people when they cannot adequately provide for themselves.

**No Denial Made**  
No one denies that there are "chiclers" on public assistance rolls. I would like to quote from a speech given by Mr. Juras, administrator of the state Public Welfare Commission: "There is much talk today about ineligible being on the welfare rolls, the Aid to Dependent Children program fostering children born out of wedlock, welfare recipients not paying their bills, welfare recipients not being willing to work or look for jobs, and welfare standards being too high. There is genuine concern about the mounting cost of welfare in today's wealthy society. From what one hears and reads, it would appear that the welfare agency is held responsible for the economic status of the state and nation, and there are those who believe all behavior problems enter around persons receiving public assistance."

**Percentage Small**  
Fortunately, it is a very small percentage of welfare recipients who abuse the program. But, unfortunately, it is this minority that is noticed and remembered by the general public. What the public is usually unaware of are the success cases; the families helped to independence, improved social functioning of individuals and families, of the child in a public assistance family or in foster care who is on the honor roll or the varsity football team, of our cooperative work with the

## The Editor's Corner

By Charles V. Stanton

## Recreation Is Suggested For Pork Barrel Outlay

Robert B. Duncan, congressman from Oregon's Fourth Congressional District, says that reclamation, per se, is not bad. His statement was made in response to a request from Life Magazine to comment on a recent article extremely critical of the congressional "Pork Barrel." It purported to expose a huge waste of funds on federal projects.

Admitting that some projects perhaps could be classed as "pork," Duncan replied that the article was not discriminating; that there is "another side to the story."

"Water is the life blood of our nation," Duncan said in his letter to the magazine. "The West has appreciated this for a long time, because we all appreciate that which is scarce. The East is coming to realize this, too, as the demands on available supplies increase. The time to meet the need is now."

Duncan's point, it seems to me, is well taken. The article to which he refers was indeed sensational. As is so often true in such writings there appeared to be a measure of exaggeration, a lumping of the good and the bad all under the term "bad."

The "Pork Barrel" is an interesting institution in our political operation.

**Opportunity Offered**  
Each member of Congress has an opportunity to advocate certain public projects. Congress appropriates funds for these projects. Then the member of Congress has a chance to tell the voters about his achievements, like Little Jack Horner, "who put in his thumb and pulled out a plum," and proceeded to brag about it.

But, as Duncan says, there are certain projects with merit. Congress, it seems to me, though, isn't nearly as interested in the matter of merit as in producing votes.

For many years we have spent billions of federal dollars on rivers and harbors. Development of facilities for maritime travel certainly used to have much merit. But what has happened to maritime trade? Are we justified in continuing to spend our billions to build better harbors when the maritime industry in this country has dwindled to but a fraction of its former self?

**Duncan Correct**  
Duncan is correct when he speaks of the need for water. But is it smart to spend huge sums to put more and more land acreage into production while, at the same time, we're spending huge sums of money every day to pay for farm surpluses?

In late years our "pork barrelers" as they may be called

## The Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 29, the 302nd day of 1963 with 63 to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

On this day in history:

In 1918, units of the German fleet at Kiel began a mutiny in demand of peace negotiations with the Allies.

In 1923, Turkey became a republic and its first president, Mustafa Kemal, announced he would be known as Kemal Ataturk.

In 1929, prices collapsed on the New York Stock Exchange and billions of dollars of stock value were wiped out.

In 1940, Secretary of War Henry Stimson drew the first draft number from a bowl at the War Department auditorium and the first peacetime draft was underway.

A thought for the day — American author Mark Twain said: "One of the most striking differences between a cat and a lie is that a cat has only nine lives."

### Turkey Dinner Slated For Riversdale Event

A turkey dinner with all the trimmings and assorted pies for dessert will be served at the Fall Festival to be held by Riversdale Grangers at the hall this Saturday. Serving will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Following the dinner, a country store will be open and games will be played for the evening's entertainment, according to the committee in charge.

### Matter of Fact



The total waterfront within New York City is 578 miles long. Manhattan has 43 miles, Brooklyn 201, the Bronx 80, Queens 197, and Richmond (Staten Island) 57. The two flanking rivers, the Hudson and the East, are not true rivers. The Hudson is a tidal arm, or narrow inlet, of the sea. The East is a 16-mile tidal strait connecting New York Bay with Long Island Sound.

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