



THE COST AIN'T HAY—Pickets at a Newport, Ky., steel plant arrive on horseback for a sit-down tour of duty. Cost of the nation's steel strike is, however, far from "hay." It is estimated that strikers and industry are losing a total of some 29 million dollars each day.

States Show Trend For Higher And Higher Taxes And Budgets

By **RAYMOND LAHR**
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI)—State Legislatures reached into taxpayers' wallets for hundreds of millions of dollars this year to keep state bank accounts in the black and finance record budgets.

Lawmakers in almost all of the 46 states with legislatures meeting in 1959 have approved or still must approve budgets that are all time high. In some cases, they found that the tax take from economic growth or the bounce-back from the 1958 recession would cover the increased drain on the Treasury.

But in many other states, the Legislatures glumly agreed that they had to raise taxes. Some tried new tax gimmicks but most of them simply raised income taxes, sales taxes or excises on liquor, beer and tobacco.

New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Utah joined the federal government and about a dozen other states which impose withholding taxes on paychecks to help insure collection of income taxes. Idaho levied a \$10 head tax on each income tax return filed.

Oklahoma Goes Wet
Colorado, Ohio, Maine and Utah put a tax on hotel and motel bills. Nebraska levied a new tax on pari-mutuel betting. The heretofore dry state of Okla-

homa legalized liquor, and the Legislature promptly taxed it \$2.40 a gallon to yield an estimated \$3,500,000 a year.

Cigaret smokers were a favored target in the search for new revenue. California, which had no cigarette tax, got a levy of 3 cents a package when the Legislature approved 222 million of Gov. Edmund G. Brown's 256 million dollar tax program.

Of 11 other states which increased cigarette taxes this year, Iowa and Wyoming went to four cents a pack; Idaho, New York, Ohio, South Carolina and South Dakota to 5 cents; Minnesota 5 1/2; Pennsylvania and Washington, 6; and Vermont 7 cents. According to the Tobacco Institute, 25 states now collect cigarette taxes of 5 cents or more per package on top of the 8-cent federal tax.

In Minnesota, the Legislature boldly approved a slight increase in the beer tax, which had been unchangeable for 23 years. Although it balked at a withholding tax, it also raised taxes on personal and corporate income, liquor, cigarettes and other tax sources as part of a 45 million dollar tax package.

Besides California with its 222 million dollars of new taxes, states with six-figure tax increase packages this year included: Ohio, 275 million dollars; New York, 273 million; Illinois, 135 million and Washington, 112 million dollars.

In the crisis-ridden state of Michigan, the legislature appears to be moving toward a sales tax increase from 3 to 4 or 5 per cent, with an exemption for food if it goes to a. Action along this line would kill off Gov. G. Mennen Williams' proposal for a new state

income tax as part of his 140 million dollar tax plan.

The Washington State Legislature raised the sales tax from 3.1-3 to 4 per cent and increased other levies, too. Although they controlled the legislature, the Democrats failed to muster the necessary two-thirds vote to get a referendum on a constitutional amendment to authorize an in-

tax.

Four States Up Gas Tax
After the recent rash of state gasoline tax increases, fewer states reached for the motorist this year. Among those which did were New York with a gas tax increase from 4 to 6 cents a gallon, Ohio from 5 to 7 and New Hampshire and West Virginia from 6 to 7. Proposed gas tax increases are still pending in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

Several governors presumed to have national political ambitions as candidates or kingmakers had to wrestle with record-breaking budgets and sizeable tax programs this year. Beside Brown and Williams on the Democratic side, they included Republican Govs. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York and William G. Stratton of Illinois and Democratic Gov. Michael V. DiSalle of Ohio.

In California, where the Legislature concentrated on upper bracket taxpayers in voting an income tax increase, Democratic members liked to compare their plan with what they called Rockefeller's "soak the poor" income tax schedule.

Liz Taylor Says She And Eddie Not Expecting

SAGARO, Spain (UPI)—Actress Elizabeth Taylor said today rumors she and Eddie Fisher are expecting their first child are "ridiculous."

Miss Taylor said there was no truth to the rumors which started in Paris Wednesday after she boarded a plane for Barcelona wearing a brown, sack-like dress often worn in France by expectant mothers.

"It is completely ridiculous," she said. "I'm not expecting. I'm here to do a picture."

She dismissed the idea that the rumors may have been started by her costume in Paris Wednesday as "silly."

Others who have seen Miss Taylor here within the past few weeks also discounted the idea that she may be expecting. "She is trimmer today than when she came here," one said.

The Rhesus monkey, so widely used in medical and outer-space research, has given the first two letters of its name to what is now widely known as the Rh factor in blood.

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