

Celebration Ends In Black; Minnie Jolly Named Prexy

Despite a slow start, an initial lack of interest and rain on July 3 that sapped a good share of remaining enthusiasm, the annual celebration wound up another successful year in the black.

Finance chairman and vice-president of the committee Minnie Jolly announced that \$795.25 was collected in the fireworks fund drive from out of town and local businesses and organizations. Nearly \$200 was earned from concession fees and around \$100 was cleared on the dance. A preliminary report from treasurer Gil Rush indicated the net proceeds would be close to \$400. Because there are still a few small bills outstanding, a firm financial report will not be available for two or three weeks, Rush said, but it looks good.

All concessions reported good attendance with food stands and the barbecue selling out. Good attendance was also noted at all events. The local art exhibit at the art center saw more than 500 guests registered, but this is only about a fourth of those that visited the exhibit, according to Minnie Jolly. It is estimated that 2,000 persons visited the traveling art exhibits and flower show at the grade school. Weichmann won the door prize, a transistor radio, at the celebration dance.

ELECTION
Minnie Jolly was elected president for the 1964 celebration, with Wilbur Green as vice-president. Pat Starr was reelected secretary and Gil Rush treasurer. Directors are Paul Peterson, Red McWilliams and Jim Peterson. It was voted to hold a two-day celebration next year, Friday and Saturday, July 3 and 4, with the possibility of extending it to Sunday.

A previous motion that all proceeds from the celebration would be donated to the Community Center fund was amended to read that all proceeds in excess of a \$250 reserve would be donated to the Center. It was felt this amendment was necessary because a working fund is always needed at the beginning of the celebration year.

The Freedom Float made by the Art Association will be redecorated by the Celebration group and entered in the Curry and Coos County Fairs.

Mrs. Jolly set the next meeting for 7:45 p. m. Monday, August 12, at the city hall. This meeting will be prior to the Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Highway Striping Underway by State

Oregon's highway striping program is now in the summer rush, as crews prepare to spread 130,000 gallons of paint over 7,500 miles of interstate, primary and secondary highways throughout the state.

Crews are painting shoulder stripes as well as white center lines and the yellow no-passing lines. Shoulder stripes are being put on all interstate highways and will be placed on other highways as soon as possible.

Approximately 110,000 gallons of white paint and 20,000 gallons of yellow paint will be used this year. About five pounds of glass beads, resembling flour in consistency, are added to each gallon of white paint to improve visibility through light reflection.

Strict License Policy Adopted

Persons who make fraudulent application for a driver's license may face prosecution under a more stringent policy adopted by the Department of Motor Vehicles, Vern L. Hill, director of the agency, has announced.

Hill said the department recently filed a complaint against a driver who had made three false applications for a license under different names. The driver was found guilty, fined \$400 and sentenced to 20 days in jail.

People filing false applications, Hill said, generally have had their license to drive suspended for one reason or another and attempt to get another license by using an assumed name. Records of those suspended are kept under close surveillance, however, and the facts concerning fraudulent application usually comes to light in a very short time.

In the past, the department has cancelled the application

merit.

Legislatures should be known for what they don't do as well as for what they do. One thing this past session did not do was enact a sales tax.

There is much calling in the press and from segments of the economy for a sales tax referral. I have consistently opposed a sales tax for all the obvious regressive reasons. I continue to do so.

But if one is to be referred, I will not—and did not in the past session—stand in its way if it is a realistic sales tax.

Sales tax proponents badly advocated referring an easy tax to the people so that they'd approve it. They said the tax could be toughened up once we had our foot in the door.

Now, you could refer a sales tax on bicycles only. No doubt all would vote for it, unless they had boys in the family and had to pay the tax. After your foot was in the door, what would you do? Why you'd come back to the next session and start adding things which are taxable. That is, figuratively, what was advocated by some sales tax proponents.

The most common proposal during the past session was to impose a sales tax on everybody except farmers—farmers are always exempted from paying sales taxes—and to exempt food purchased for consumption off the premises. This it was argued, the people would buy. The next session could add food to the taxable list. No one suggested that farmers could be added to those paying the tax, however.

To their eternal credit, a majority of the House of Representatives would not go along with this. The House refused to concur in a Senate bill which had the title of "Property Tax Relief Act of 1963," which was really a 3% sales tax on everyone except farmers, and exempting food.

The Senate, where the bill originated, claimed 50% of the revenue would go to property tax relief. Either they hadn't read their own bill or they thought I wouldn't read it. Actually, only 27% went for property tax relief—the other 73%, or about \$93.5 million, went into the General Fund to encourage bigger spending by future legislatures.

The House's position was simply this: We'd go along with referral if they'd be honest with the people who they were asking to vote on the bill—if they'd include food as taxable, as it is in 27 out of 37 states which levy a sales tax, and reduce the rate to 2%. We would not lull the people to sleep on this one and slip them the food knife next session.

A majority of the Senate and most of the minority party wouldn't accept our position. So this Legislature didn't enact a sales tax, with or without referral.

I dwell overlong on taxation. You will forgive me. Tax economics has been my field since I came to the Legislature in 1957. It was sometimes difficult to remain above the fray from a position of judicial discretion.

to be continued



Windthrown Timber Salvage Exceeds 1 Billion Feet

Sales of National Forest timber felled by the Columbus Day storm now exceeds one billion board feet, according to J. Herbert Stone, regional forester, U. S. Forest Service.

In the National Forests of Oregon and Washington, 958 sales have been made with a total volume of 1,345,469,000

board feet, of which approximately 25% was intermingled green timber that had to be logged with the blow down timber.

Most recent estimate on a regionwide basis indicates there is approximately 300 million feet yet to sell, much of which is advertised at this time. In the past three months, 425 sales were made involving 861,322,000 board feet.

Total volume of blowdown timber actually harvested to June 30 is estimated at 403,332,000 board feet. The current woods industry strike has slowed removal of damaged timber in certain areas, Stone said.

but has not prosecuted the driver. The decision to prosecute was made in hopes of reducing the number of false applications.

TRY A CLASSIFIED

UNDER dripping plastic "tarps," members of the Surf Riders spent a second rainy night at McGribble Guard Station trying to stay dry. Two of the five days on the trail were water-soaked. Left to right are David Knapp, Patsy Miller, Norma Jean Valet, Mike McWilliams and Teresa Phillips. Not pictured are Jerry Forty and Mrs. Phyllis Woodworth, leader.

—News Photo by Leo Phillips

JUSTICE COURT

Cases appearing before Justice Arthur F. Niemann in Justice Court since last report were: Lanny Ray Boston, July 10, no brakes, \$10 bail forfeited; George Byron Lampro, July 11, false application for fishing license, \$100 fine plus costs, \$50 suspended, \$54.50; Sidney Morris Le-won, July 11, VBR, \$25; Leo

Violette, July 11, VBR, \$15; Charles Morgan, July 11, receiving stolen property, waived preliminary hearing, bound over for Curry county grand jury. In lieu of \$2,000 bail committed to Curry county jail; Charles Rucker Ferrell, July 16, failure to drive right side of highway, \$10; Arthur Stuart Fulman, July 16, VBR, bail forfeited, \$25; Elaine Max-line Chalman, July 16, VBR, \$25.

Breakfast Treat

Spoon mixture of 1/2 cup cranberry sauce with 1/4 cup brown sugar into greased muffin tins. Top with packaged corn muffin mix. Bake for a breakfast treat with a "southern accent."

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REPORT ON LEGISLATURE

Will Increased Corporate Tax Drive Business Out of State?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Here is an authoritative review of what happened at Salem during the Legislative session just concluded—why taxes are being raised, and what could happen if the tax bill just passed is referred to the people and beaten in a special election—in the words of a key figure on the scene: Clarence A. Barton of Coos County, Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 52nd Legislative Assembly.

The following are excerpts from Rep. Barton's talk to the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association at Coos Bay.

By CLARENCE BARTON
Speaker
Oregon House of Representative
PART IV

As you know, we also increased the corporate excise tax rates. At present, the lowest possible effective rate on manufacturing corporations is 4%, although the published rate is 6%. The 4% rate comes about because of the personal property offset.

Under the new law, the rate on manufacturing corporations is 4% on the first \$25,000 of net income and 4 1/2% thereafter. On service corporations it remains at 6% on the first \$25,000 and is 6 1/2% thereafter. On financial institutions, the rate is a flat 8%.

Criticism of this excise tax increase has been loud. It is charged we are trying to drive business from the state.

What does this tax increase actually amount to? I'll tell you. For a corporation with a net profit of \$100,000 a year, there is an increase in state taxes of \$375 a year. And the federal government will pay over half of this. So our \$100,000 corporation's state taxes actually increased only \$180 a year.

This can hardly be called driving business out of Oregon. If the personal income taxpayers can be called upon to pay from 20 to 25% more taxes, it behooves corporations with a profit of \$100,000 a year to pay another \$180.

A last feature of the new income tax law needs mention. At present, tax rate summaries, which circulate throughout the country, print Oregon's basic business tax rate at 6%, which it isn't because of personal property offsets, and our top income tax rate at 9 1/2%, which it isn't because of all the allowable deductions.

It is frequently repeated that Oregon has the highest income tax rates in the nation, which it hasn't, and that these excessive rates keep new business from entering the state, which they don't.

We hear the argument advanced that executives look at Oregon's tax structure and shudder and say that they won't locate here and pay those taxes.

I have had some experience with this problem and I can attest that out-of-state firms who contemplate locating in Oregon make more than this superficial investigation of Oregon's tax rates.

Be that as it may, there are those who are always bemoaning Oregon's high taxes and saying that it keeps out new industry.

This complaint will have to stop if the new tax law becomes effective. Our new published basic rate on corporations will be 4%. Our new top rate on personal income will be 7 1/2%, which is still higher than it really is, but is more realistic than the present published rate of 9 1/2%.

I suggest you stand away from the doors.

New industry is going to flood in here. Or at least it will if previous complaints by our professional Cassandras have



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