

THE Sandy Post

GREAT WAY
TO THE MT. HOOD PLAYGROUND

Walter C. Taylor, Lee Irwin, Co-Publishers
Elizabeth Hartman, Editor

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Sandy Post, Sandy, Oregon

October 17, 1968

Hidden Value Tax

Over in Britain, the government is experimenting with a new "hidden" tax -- called Value Added Tax -- or VAT.

The theory is real simple. "Governments everywhere are finding it convenient to reduce the burden of direct taxation and to mask as far as possible the disincentive effects of overt indirect levies, and the VAT, which collects tax throughout a product's industrial life, from raw material to processor, to wholesaler and retailer, pushes the burden directly on the final consumer in higher prices," we're told.

We have, of course taxes of this general nature now, on automobiles, and TV sets and similar items, but the idea of eliminating any direct

taxes so that you won't know when you "hurt" by the tax collector maybe a sneaky way to do things.

In Britain, as in the United States and other industrialized nations, the demand for governmental services continue to expand. VAT appears a way 'round this problem. By adding a little bit all along the line, no one "feels" the blow quite like the same total added directly, say, to the real estate tax.

On the other hand, a hidden tax may provide more and more income to a government without the full knowledge of those paying these taxes--in a way, a sort of taxation without representation.

Or, does what you don't really know not hurt?



EAGLE SCOUT John Johnson pins miniature silver Eagle badge on proud mother, Mrs. Elmer Johnson, at Court of Honor ceremony Monday night.

Candidates Night Is Well Attended

An interested audience of about 75 persons gathered at Bowman's Golf and Country club last Wednesday evening to meet with Republican candidates for various state and county offices.

The candidates night was also well attended by the candidates themselves with several state

Kersting Ends Army School

Leslie Kersting, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard J. Kersting, Rt. 2, Sandy, was awarded the military rating of Advanced Engineer Equipment Maintenance Specialist and received his diploma for having successfully completed the Advanced Engineer Equipment Maintenance Course in the Department of Mechanical and Technical Equipment at the United States Army Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

This highly technical and concentrated course is designed to give the Army Engineer the knowledge and skills needed to maintain and repair all types of construction equipment used by the Corps of Engineers, and to instruct and supervise others in the field.

Kersting is a 1967 graduate of Sandy Union High School.

and all county candidates present. The national and state candidates who were unable to attend, sent representatives to speak in their behalf.

The meeting opened with the flag salute led by Mrs. Ruben Hoffman who then turned the chair over to Dan Ten Eyck. Ten Eyck introduced candidates and speakers including: Ted Gamble, chairman of the Nixon/Agnew effort in Oregon; Irving Emma, chairman of the State Republican Central Committee; Norman Smith spoke in behalf of senatorial candidate Robert Packwood; Senator Inskeep representing Wendall Wyatt; and William Moshofsky, who represented Clay Myers in his campaign for Secretary of State.

Speaking in their own behalf were Lee Johnson, candidate for State Attorney General; Roger Martin, State Representative Position #1; Allen Pynn, State Representative Position #2; Leo Thornton, State Representative Position #3; and Mrs. Mildred Sundleaf, State Representative Position #4.

Also, District Attorney candidate Jim O'Leary, County Commissioner Candidates Larry Berentzen and Tom Telford; and Bob Wampler, who is running for County Sheriff.

Following the meeting those attending had the opportunity to visit with individual candidates over cake and coffee.



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SALEM SCENE

by ERRETT CUTTER

BUSINESS CLIMATE STUDY GROUP READIES LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Final recommendations of the Legislative Interim Committee on Business Climate now are being compiled for introduction to the legislature in January.

Many will be in the form of specific bills, including a suggestion that a similar business study committee be created next session to look further into aspects of the state's economic climate.

All are intended to generally improve Oregon's opportunities for industrial expansion, increased employment and advantages to improve competition with other states in these areas. They have been compiled in cooperation with private business and industry, local government, and the Economic Development Division of the State Department of Commerce.

A specific recommendation of the committee will be to completely phase out over a ten-year period, Oregon's inventory tax. Testimony before the group's subcommittee on fiscal climate convinced members that the inventory tax is not only Oregon's most inequitable tax, but is directly responsible for job layoffs, and unemployment and seriously damages our economic growth.

The committee is recommending no reimbursement from the state to local government for its resulting losses, differing from provisions of the Inventory Tax Relief Act of 1965 and its up-and-down history. Any revenue loss, committee members believe, would be made up by increased business investment, more jobs and income, and higher property values.

Another recommendation calls for the creation of a State Department of Transportation to develop an overall, coordinated transportation policy. It would include two new divisions, for ports and mass transit. Port district policy is considered particularly important, because ports strongly influence the type of industry locating in Oregon--especially under tax-free bonding provisions for port development which became Oregon law last year.

Creation of the new state department follows the concept

of 1963's coordination of planning functions of 15 separate agencies and boards dealing with business under one Department of Commerce. The change did not abolish agencies, but coordinated them, and is considered successful.

While the subcommittee on environmental climate proposed no tourism promotion plans to the full committee, it did recommend administrative increases in overnight campsite rates--enough at least to meet maintenance costs and hopefully to make private investments. The committee will include this in its report, along with information contributed by the Small Business Administration explaining provisions for resort facilities to be financed by local development companies, banks and a state development corporation--should one be created, as per enabling legislation already on the books.

Another recommendation to the 1969 legislature will be to extend revenue bonding authority to existing local government units and special districts. Such action would eliminate the further creation of port authority solely for industrial development purposes.

Feeling that the scope of their interim period investigation has been too broad, but that the idea of a committee concerned with business and industry is valuable, the Business Climate Committee is making ten specific recommendations for future study. They are:

--That a future committee consider such areas as research and its effect on Oregon's economy; the development of nuclear power and research; transportation (particularly mass transit, air transportation, locations and development of new highways).

--That careful consideration by the Legislature be given to the Governor's plans for internal reorganization, particularly, with respect to efforts to eliminate duplication of inspections and licensing.

--That the Committee recommend that a performance audit of various budgets be made to determine the results of legislative appropriations.

--That important lines of communication had been established

by the Committee between government and business and industry where they did not exist before; and that a future committee should make public some of the reports presented at Committee hearings.

--That the Committee recommend the continuation of a similar interim committee, again including public members.

--That the Committee introduce a resolution re (previous item) defining specific areas of investigation.

--That at least a partial inventory of Oregon's economic and geographic assets be given.

--That the importance of state-directed planned land usage is recognized; that the Committee is aware of the problems as well as solutions.

--That the change in Oregon's industrial picture through diversification and internal expansion be covered.

--That summaries of the areas of investigation of the various subcommittees be made.

Quarry Owner

To Appeal Zoning

Raymond Smith, owner of property on Larch Mountain, will appeal to the Board of County Commissioners in an attempt to get a zone change allowing him to develop a quarry on a site between Loudon and Salzman roads.

October 1, the Multnomah county Planning Commission denied his request for a zone change on grounds of inadequate access. The hearing was attended by a large delegation of Corbett residents who have repeatedly voiced opposition to the zone change, expressing fear that quarry work in the vicinity would damage springs used as water sources.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Last Wednesday night local restrictions of the office. So citizens had the opportunity to don't be as one voter remark--meet nine of the Republicaned, "I have my mind made candidates running for local up, don't confuse me with and state office. Although the facts."

crowd wasn't as large as I had hoped for; the candidates were very pleased and the enthusiasm of those attending was overwhelming.

Still, the apathy and unconcern of those not attending was shocking to me. Sandy's City Council interviewed a new water man. They could have interviewed nine people who will have a direct effect on law and order (candidates for District Attorney and Sheriff), or those who will require the city to have certain zoning, and those who have a direct say on how much of the tax dollar Sandy will receive in the next few years.

Of Sandy's service clubs I recognized no members. There was one businessman. Over and over again I heard "I vote for the man not the party." I'm glad people consider themselves open minded; but how can they make a good choice if they have no personal knowledge of the candidate. They are only voting for the one someone has expressed an opinion on or the one that has the most money to put on a strong advertising campaign.

One candidate commented "Why roll out the red carpet only when you have an urgent problem. Think of that the next time you complain about a poor road."

Now that I've expressed my concern I want to express my enthusiasm for the candidates that were there. They were outstanding and hit upon subjects dear to us all -- property taxes, zoning, and wasteful spending of our tax dollars. Concrete solutions were given and it seemed they would make

Ginny Brewster
Rt. 1, Box 1500
Sandy

To the Editor:

If the 1-1/2% Property Tax Base for Oregon does pass in this coming election how will the small communities meet the expenses for the services they now provide for their residents? Some of the funds, a goodly portion now comes from Property Taxes and the amount that comes from the State is proportioned according to population. That means the proportion would be small now as it is in comparison to the amount received by a larger community or city. So, if the passing of this issue would mean a cut back in funds, then where will this leave the small community?

If the services are continued at the level they are now there might not be enough money. Will that mean a curtailment of these service or will the city try to find other funding within the city? Will the small community look to Federal Funding to maintain the functioning of the community?

Sincerely,
D. Perry
P. O. Box 433
Sandy

To the Editor:

A knowledge of Esperanto, the international language, has an educational, cultural, practical and hobby value. It is the only widely-used such language, being intended as a second language for everyone thereby

eliminating the language barrier on a world-wide scale. With Esperanto one can contact thousands of persons abroad through letters, tape and visits.

Free leaflets about Esperanto are available from the writer of this letter to anyone anywhere. Interested teachers should request, in addition, an illustrated article reprinted from the California Teachers Association Journal for May, 1968. In it, a teacher describes her experiences teaching Esperanto in an elementary school in that state during a six-year period.

Adrian Hughes
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BARRICADES WENT UP last Wednesday on the bridge over railroad tracks on Southeast 212th Ave., between Division and Burnside. Multnomah county inspectors found a broken beam and deemed the bridge unsafe. Owned by Portland Traction Co., a railroad firm spokesman said repairs would be made to the bridge, but was uncertain as to when construction would begin.