

Local employee tax wise

The Sandy Chamber of Commerce Tuesday was treated to the good and the bad on the subject of increased local taxes that face business this year.

The bad news (which drew immediate vote to draft a letter of objection to state legislators) involved state budget-balancing plans for new taxes including increased corporate income tax. The chamber's sensible view on the state deficit plaguing budgeters is that government should cut costs to meet present revenue, without making poor Oregon any less attractive as a place to do business.

The possible good news about new taxes for local business came from Peter Day, vice-president of the county's economic development board and president of Clackamas Business Promotions Corporation, a private development group to stimulate county business.

Day advocates on the May ballot a \$10 tax per employee for all county employers (\$25 minimum) to raise approximately half a million dollars seed money for county economic development programs. The money would be used locally throughout the county for administrative revenue to allow the developers room to move in stimulating local tourism and industry, plus help local businesses secure federal growth money including new 503 SBA loans.

Day sees the new Small Business Administration 503 loans as a blessing for growing

businesses, provided they know how to apply for the new low-interest, long-term financing. The business person only puts up 10 percent cash or equity, while the federal government provides 50 percent financing at only 2 percent over treasury note rate with up to 25 years to repay. Then the borrower seeks 40 percent from a local public lending institution at the best terms that can be negotiated. The bank has first mortgage. Thus far, however, only five such 503 Program loans have been made in Oregon, and Day thinks a stronger, better financed county economic development board is needed to get the word out to local economic development commissions as in Sandy.

Day's points are well taken, and he should know. With an early SBA loan and \$3,000 personal money he built a three-person backyard business in Oregon City into a \$3 million international firm with 42 employees today.

He points out wisely that Clackamas County's slumping economy shy of industry and facing government red ink needs all the business help it can get. That help should come from private business persons who help each other by building business here.

Presently there are no state or federal funds to operate the county economic development board, so local support of a business employee tax for development seed money seems wise come May. (VB)

Representative's report:

New state jobs bill helpful

by BOB SHIPRACK
State Representative, Dist. 23

H.B. 2373, which has passed the House, has been the subject of a great deal of controversy. Having sat on the committee that sent it to the floor and also having a personal interest, I feel it is necessary to explain exactly what it does.

CETA or the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act expired Sept. 30. Last year, the Reagan Administration developed and passed into law JTPA or the Job Training Partnership Act. It is a radical departure from CETA in that the State has broad powers of interpretation and enforcement of federal training funds. Other changes specify that these funds cannot be used for compensation for individuals involved in training, only tuition, books and a limited amount for administration. The relationship with the private sector is greatly enhanced. Private Industry Councils (PIC's) gave equal authority with local elected officials to establish procedures and policies for training in the private sector. Public sector jobs are specifically prohibited. JTPA gives the authority for administration of this act to the governors of the states, and members of the PIC fully represent the local business community.

JTPA mandated that each state identify those workers defined as "dislocated." JTPA gives a loose definition to include people who have been laid-off and unlikely to return to their former industry or job, terminated because of plant closure and the long term unemployed particularly



those older individuals who may have barriers to employment by reason of age.

HB 2373 does two things. First it will allow unemployment benefits to be paid to individuals identified as dislocated workers. Secondly, it would allow Chemeketa Community College to immediately begin a pilot program that cannot proceed with, without the bill.

This bill will bring Oregon in line with federal requirements, and acknowledge the authority the Governor and Private Industry Councils will have in implementing the requirements of JTPA.

If you have any questions contact Dell Smith at 635-4591 for Clackamas County as our county's PIC is being formed, or reach me personally by letter of phone. My address is Representative Bob Shiprack, Rm H292, State Capitol, Salem, OR 97310 or phone 378-8784.

Salem scene:

New leaders wrestle budget

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

Many reasons are being offered for the rather tentative beginning of the current regular session of the 62nd Legislative Assembly in Salem.

Already more than a month old, its members seem only now to be settling down and addressing the extraordinary problems they face in determining how much revenue can be extracted from Oregonians and how it will be spent.

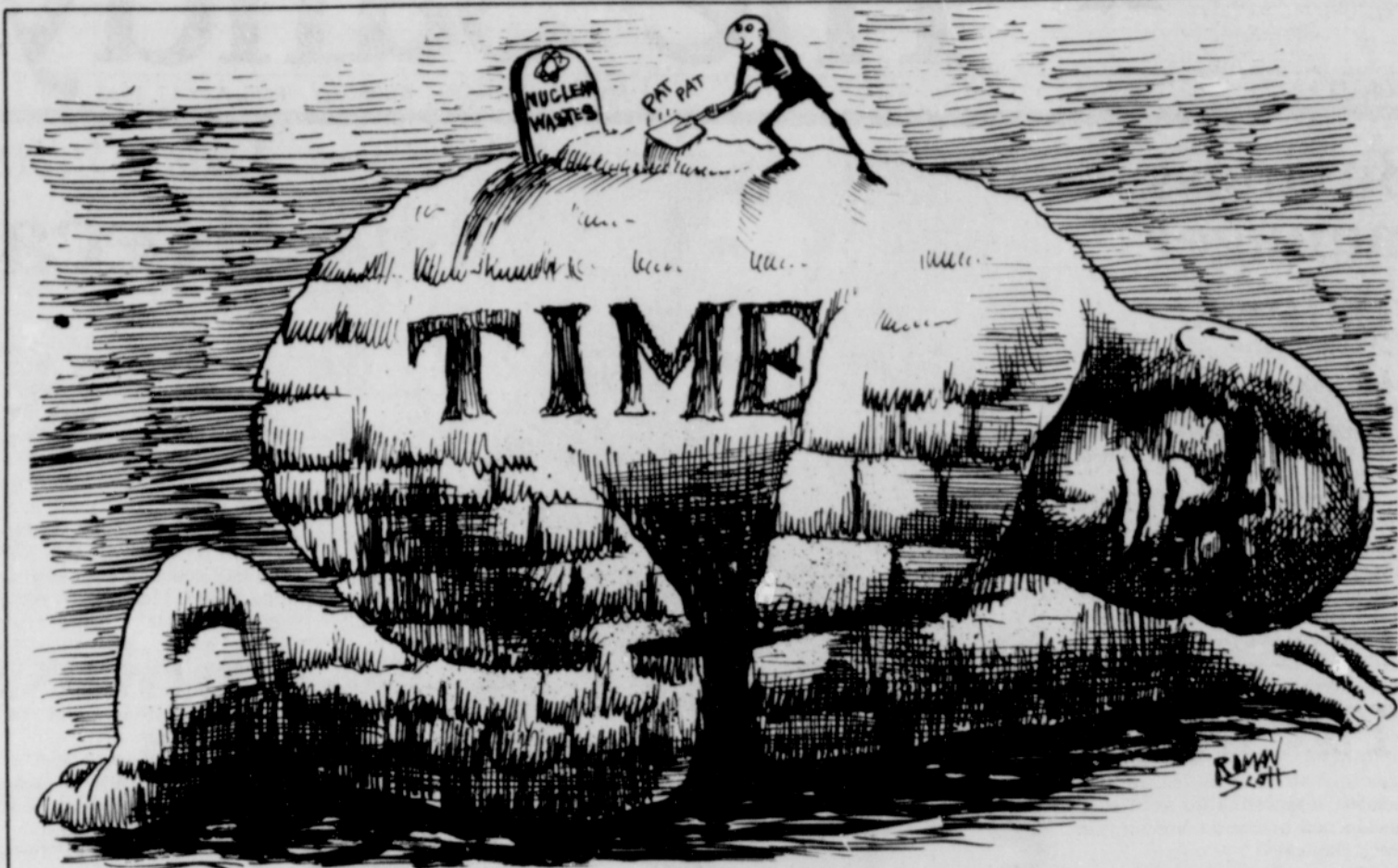
The months-long struggle to establish leadership among majority Senate Democrats did delay action in that chamber. That effort spilled a week into the session before a presiding officer was elected and at least another week was consumed firming up other Senate leadership positions and committee assignments.

But veteran Salem watcher contend the beginning of this session is little different than its predecessors. It takes time to crank things up, they point out. The impatience for action in a session's early weeks

involves mostly freshman lawmakers eager to make their marks and news reporters who find themselves with little else to relate to readers, listeners and viewers until things do get into gear.

Never since the advent of the one-man, one-vote principal has so much of the Oregon Legislature's leadership stemmed from the same or similar sources. And only twice before in the state's history have the Senate president and House speaker come from the same communities during regular sessions.

The elections to those positions of Edward Fadeley (D-Eugene) and Gratton Kerans (D-Eugene) placed considerable burden on both to avoid packing other key positions with like-minded lawmakers responsible to similar constituencies. Whether they achieved a satisfactory degree of impartiality must await the session's outcome. But what did occur in this regard is causing more than a modicum of concern among Republican minorities in both chambers as well as Democrats from the state's rural reaches.



SAFE?... ONLY TIME WILL TELL...

Letters to the editor:

SUHS firing, traffic spur mail

Editorial upsets

We are upset with the editorial of Feb. 3 in the Sandy Post. We feel it is full of misinformation and insinuations. We also feel some of the letters that were run along with it were misleading.

There is one longtime board member and two who have been on the board since July 1, 1980 (33 months). The one member of the board who has served only a few days has been a member of the budget committee for two years so has had an opportunity to see Dr. Peters at work. Instead of two board members having relatives on the staff, there are three. To our personal knowledge, all of the staff members were hired before the board members were elected.

In other letters there was a mention of the hiring of wives and children of board members, with the suggestion that this had put Dr. Peters in a difficult position. We suggest that others were put in worse position. There have been three board member's children hired and two children of a business staff member who were hired to work at the school during summers that we know of.

There may have been more before our time. We think that summer hiring should be on the basis of need and the decisions left entirely to the people for whom they will work. Dr. Peters could have said that the decision was not his to make, or a simple no would have done equally well.

It seems to us that there is entirely no relevance whether the fired superintendent is a man of integrity, honesty and compassion with a character above reproach. He was hired by others who were elected or appointed with the same qualifications. These are not the reasons he was hired. We are certain all who were considered for superintendent had the same qualities.

The charge of secrecy has been raised by Dr. Peters. It is our understanding after discussions with him that ORS 192.660 requires all personnel review be done in closed executive session. All Dr. Peters has to do to open the issue to the public is request in writing that the reasons for his termination be presented in a public meeting.

It seems to us that the public should wait until Dr. Peters asks the board to make public the reasons

for his dismissal before they make any judgements.

Joe and Cathy Coleman
Boring

Firing shocks

It was with great shock and sadness the District Office staff learned of the board's decision Jan. 24 to terminate the superintendent's contract effective June 30, 1983.

I would like the patrons of Sandy Union High School District No. 2 to know that I have had the privilege of working with Dr. John D. Peters, superintendent, since May, 1979 and found him at all times to be professional and dedicated in serving the needs of the district.

I also would like to assure the district patrons that Dr. Peters is an ethical, moral and honest person, and your district has been administered by him in a sound, accountable, creditable manner with a high degree of professionalism and expertise garnered from his thirty-three years of experience in education.

In my opinion, this is an untimely decision, and I find it hard to believe that this action will enhance the students, the school or the

community.

Joan E. Hay
Deputy Clerk
SUHS

Firing wrong

We don't see how the SUHS board can expect us to vote for their budget, when they have irresponsibly terminated a responsible superintendent's contract midway through it. We are not satisfied with the firing of a man in the middle of his contract for no reason except that "a change is needed because of the climate of the times."

For this we are expected to come up with \$50,000 to buy up his contract. Where are they going to get that money? It would be easier to get rid of the board and keep a good man, Jack Peters.

And how about this conflict of interest between the board and their wives and children working for the district? Could this have something to do with Jack Peters' firing? It's a thought.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peterson
Sandy

Control speeders

I am overjoyed that the

Sandy police are going to start cracking down on the rotten drivers around town (Feb. 3). Enforcing the law against illegal turns might seem inconsequential, but it is a step in the right direction.

I only hope the crackdown won't stop with the illegal turns, but will extend to other traffic violations.

My pet peeve happens to be speeding. The speed limit in town is 25 miles per hour. At least, Proctor and Pioneer Boulevards are posted 25 mph, and the state driver's manual states that the speed limit in residential areas is 25 mph unless posted otherwise. There are times when I honestly believe that I'm the only person in town who drives the legal limit.

On the plus side, I never worry about getting a ticket for speeding, and that feels good. However, I do worry about getting hit from behind. Again.

So, hooray for the Sandy police. I support them 100 percent, and wish them success in educating the unlearned drivers among us.

Herbert O. Evans, Jr.
Sandy

Yesteryear in Sandy:

UFO, cougar scares big concerns

A quarter-century may not seem long to me or you, but to the Sandy-Hoodland area the changes with time have been remarkable. Here's how this area looked 25 years ago this week:

FEBRUARY, 1958:

A Sandy Telephone Service Improvement Committee met in the apartment back of Cannon's Hardware store with state officials to discuss extended area service and rate increases. West Coast Telephone Company spent \$33,260 on a first-quarter job to provide direct trunks to Portland for two-way toll traffic. Sure, it cost to call Portland from here, but at least the trunks made service speedier.

The Sandy Chamber of Commerce looked closely at proposed new business licenses for all firms and persons doing business in Sandy. Chamber president Ralph Richardson named Ducey Barber, Pete Perrine and Bill Perkins to a study committee. Estacada had taken to the city fund-raising licenses three years earlier. Several businessmen here felt such a business license would fly only if funds were specifically earmarked for civic improvements.

A Rhododendron fire burned to the ground the summer home of Royal Vanderwahl at a loss of \$10,000. A new fire alarm system



by VON BRASCHLER

installed by Rhododendron Boosters by John Nevin sounded the alarm, and 15 Rhododendron volunteers responded. They were backed by two Forest Service pickups with pumps and the Mt. Hood Fire Department.

Also in Rhododendron, a rod and gun club was formed by Joe Kiefer, Denver Griesen and Don Root.

Another dam for storage of 750 million gallons of water was built by Portland water department on the north fork of the Bull Run River. The earth dam, built in a month at a cost of \$15,000, was

considered necessary because of lack of sufficient snow pack in the area that year. There was only an 18-inch pack at Bull Run, while packs had been averaging seven feet. The new dam was built in the site of an abandoned rock quarry northeast of Portland's main Bull Run dam.

Sandy celebrated news the state Highway Commission agreed to pay \$30,000 to help relay the water main from the headgate into the city. The state's major involvement was reached after a conference between Mayor Ruben Hoffman and a highway engineer. The state laid a new 8-inch main to replace the old 6-inch water main to take care of Sandy's future growth. The state agreed to provide the same size main for that portion of the work the city had to pay for a cost of only 40 cents a foot.

Sandy was treated to fluorescent street signs on homes and businesses at a charge from the city of \$1 per building. The plan was to make addresses easier to read in the dark plus aid city water department in keeping more complete records of water installation and service.

State and federal officials denied local stories that a cougar had attacked a 17-year-old boy

named Dean McWilliams near Rhododendron. The Gresham High student claimed a cougar jumped him while he walked snow-covered Vine Maple Road. "There was no cougar up there," Oregon City predatory control officer Cliff Rollison said, after circling the area with trained cougar dogs.

The air was buzzing with speculation over reports of UFO's sighted by half a dozen witnesses in Sandy-Eagle Creek area.

The official report to the Air Force was made by Jack R. Reef of Eagle Creek. Six other persons confirmed the report of unidentified flying objects. The flying objects first were noted in the vicinity of Mt. Hood, flying east to west. The six objects were lighted and gave a faint droning noise unlike any engine-driven or jet aircraft, Reef said. They all had white lights, he noted, and if standing still might have been mistaken for a star formation. He noted flashing red or white lights at different intervals, similar to regular aircraft navigation lights. He said it took the crafts approximately six minutes to fly from horizon to horizon. The Portland Air base said similar sightings were made farther south that same night.