

I WRITE As I See It

By Barton W. Marsh

Man has been divinely endowed with the privilege of believing what he chooses to believe. This privilege, as long as it does not infringe upon the rights of others, no man has the right to deny him. It is the privilege of everyone to know that believing does not make a belief a fact.

Man may think that what he believes is a fact, he may act as if he knew it to be a fact, but that does not make it a fact. Because of this the world is filled with conflicting opinions that cannot be reconciled. From the microphones, the lecture platforms, the printing presses, from the executive rooms of presidents, kings, dictators, there is pouring a flood of opinions, commands and orders that do not agree and cannot be brought into agreement.

Regardless of whatever use may be made of the powers in possession of the mind of man, regardless of the reasoning he may employ in reaching his conclusions, regardless of the source from which he gathers his evidence, regardless of the decision he may arrive at, there remains unmoved the immutable fact, and that is the thing, or the fact that is, and is to be.

The other day a neighbor, who has been reading this column, asked me if I believed that this time of easy money and good times would likely continue for an extended period. Well, there are a lot of folks who would like to have an answer to this question. Easy money and lots of it, is the top thought in the minds of a good many people.

"Easy money" is a relative term, and there are more strings tied to its interpretation than I am able to unravel. The other day I sent in for a glass chimney for my gasoline lantern for which I had formerly been paying fifty cents. This time I paid a dollar and a half for it. There is a wide range of change in what may be termed "easy money" in the jump of 300% in the value

of a simple household utility. We would all like to know more about the contributing factors in such stratosphere flights in commodity values. China would like to know something about "easy money" she seems unable to learn, now that it takes 13 thousand of her dollars to equal one American dollar.

In these fantastic flurries and turmoils the value of money seems to lose its meaning. The other day a supposedly staid old family of Philadelphia elite who expended \$100,000 on a coming-out party for their daughter, and judging from the number of baskets of bottles (empty, of course) they must have literally consumed barrels of ardent spirits. The teen-agers were pictured, sprawling on the floor in groups, sipping their liquor. Not long since an ex-senator gave a similar party for his daughter at Washington, D. C. He only succeeded in spending \$15,000 and along with much other liquor they drank 250 bottles of champagne. On the other side of this picture, millions are starving, and tens of thousands of children are wandering about like animals without home or shelter. In face of these conditions we are somewhat confused concerning the real meaning of good times and plenty of money for everybody. As I see it, the sense of money security is more a mirage than a reality.

Rome's mad fantasy of "bread and games forever" was a dud compared to the scenes being enacted in this country today. At the very hour that the barbarians were streaming across her borders Rome was so drunkenly maudlin that she didn't care anything about her impending fate. Are we afflicted in the same manner? More than an echo is answering this fatal question now and right now. If I read my Bible aright it pictures dark days and trying times ahead. I say, the times -lying ahead are not good. "And at that time shall Michael (Christ) stand up, that great prince that standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation." Daniel 12:1.

\$3000 Deductions Due Vets On Ore. Income Tax Filing

April 15 Is Deadline
For Veterans To File
Oregon Returns

Oregon veterans discharged from active duty any time during 1946 are entitled to \$3000 deduction on their state income taxes, and the same exemption applies for one year or part of a year in active service, George E. Sandy, director of veterans' affairs, said early this week.

April 15 is the deadline for filing state income tax returns, veterans are reminded.

The \$3000 deduction is in addition to the regular personal exemption on incomes of less than \$750 for single persons and \$1500 for married persons living with their husband or wife, he explained.

Veterans who served as enlisted personnel or in the lower ranks of commissioned officers and who had little or no income other than service pay will have no tax liability in most cases for years of service, and Sandy said in such cases a letter should be sent to the tax commission setting out income received in each year or which a return has not been filed and no further return will be required.

Veterans so filing should give the date they entered service, date of discharge, and if they were officers, both the date they left active service and the date their terminal leave ended.

Oregon law says the full \$3000 may be deducted if a person was on active duty for any part of the tax year. It is not limited to service pay, but may be applied against any type of income. It may not be claimed, however, by a person who became a resident of Oregon after discharge unless he had income subject to Oregon tax during the period of service.

Base pay, flying pay, overseas pay, and retirement of regular army officers are taxable. Non-taxable are mustering-out pay, government allotments to dependents, amounts received under the GI bill, and pensions for total or partial disability, including amounts paid to retired emergency officers. Returns should be filed at the state tax commission offices, Salem or at 1137 S. W. Yamhill, Portland.

In The Mailbox:

Editor, Pilot: As press clippings continue to pour into this office from all over the state, I am constantly aware of the tre-

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mendously large service newspaper publicity has contributed toward the success of the 1947 March of Dimes. Your newspaper was outstanding in this regard during the campaign just ended. Thank you for the public service you have so generously rendered which will so greatly assist uncounted numbers of polio victims during 1947.

Large numbers of Oregon polio victims and their harassed families will turn grateful hearts toward those who contributed to the success of the 1947 March of Dimes. Thousands of other polio victims throughout the United States will do the same. Uncounted hundreds of thousands will be spared the eventuality of being polio sufferers when research study, the continuance of which is now assured, narrows the fight by discovery of means of combatting the polio virus before its damaging effects strike the human body.

An expression of appreciation on behalf of the National Foundation seems too limited. You

should, in addition, take yourself a large share appreciation each 1947 polio victim will feel that the March of Dimes was a

Especially do we want knowledge the work done by the community of yours by the American Legion and Auxiliary for the phenomenal success accomplished during the Very sincerely yours, Eugene Hall, Oregon representative of the National Foundation for Paralysis, Inc., Portland.

Editor, Pilot: We are much interested in the "Federal Tariff Commission Turns down Request of Growers," in your issue of January 23, 1947, as we handle foreign and domestic bulk would like to have you send us your bill, which will remit promptly. Thank you for your prompt attention we remain, Very truly yours, Henry & Lee, importers of seeds, Office, 90 Wall Street, New York City.

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