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Every government official or board that handles public money should publish at regular intervals an accounting of it, showing where and how each dollar is spent. We hold this to be a fundamental principle of democratic government.

Light of Publicity Protects

The public was never more eager for infomation about publie affairs, and rightly so. Every bit of such information is eagerread. The public's interest can be served by turning not less light of publicity, but more, on county and other governmental expenditures.

The measure introduced by the Douglas county delegation. eliminating publication of county court proceedings and claims allowed, was undoubtedly introduced in all sincerity. Results of such action, however, may prove too expensive for the small publication economies involved. Had expenditure lists been published in an eastern Oregon city several years ago, for instance, the taxpayers would have saved many, many thousands of dollars.

Proposal to eliminate the light of publicity from county expenditures in Hood River resulted in the Pomona Grange in that county taking immediate action to ask the court to furnish the complete information. They held that failure to publish left an opening for "skullduggery." It should not be a case of cutting down on information of this kind, but rather other tax spending bodies should, in the interest of final economy, be required to publish their expenditures. In Iowa every governmental subdivision is required to publish at regular intervals its list of expenditures. Public demand has resulted in many Oregon cities being required to publish the expenditure list.

One of the most disastrous things the state could do would be to curtail publicity which would permit any official to do under cover the things he could not do under the light of publicity. It is a protection to the honest official and the people he serves. Purchases and expenditures by county officials, who must publish them in detail for the electorate, are made with greater care and economy than if these purchases are the business and knowledge of only those officials. Additional official publicity should be forthcoming from every other governmental subdivision such as cities, school districts, etc. In pointing this out it is not intended as an aspersion against any of our county or local officials in whose sincerity and integrity this paper has the utmost confidence. However, it must be realized that experience has revealed many cases of dishonest officials. The light of publicity on the actions of all officials is protection to the people and a deterrent to the unprincipled official.

The great bulk of the total property tax is entirely for local purposes and a large share is expended by the county courts. The proposed measure would eliminate the publication of these expenditures and result in having the list of claims allowed posted on some court house door, or where will you? Picture for yourself crowds gathered around the court house door reading and studying carefully the reports of how their money is being spent by the county court. Such a method of informing the public of its affairs belongs back in the period of Oregon history when there were mere handsful of settlers, and but little money was handled by local taxing and spending bodies. It would not be doing an honest job of informing the taxpayers.

Taxation Problem Irks

Some opponents to the proposed sales levy are worrying because it is what they term a "painless" tax and because it is 'painless" it will turn too much money into the state treasury. In Mississippi, a letter reveals, it has worked out so well that there is much agitation to raise the rates to further cut down the ad valorem levy.

This letter from Mississippi pointed out the tremendous op position to the passage of this act, saying the entire state was aroused over the matter, resulting in mass meetings, and in some instances riots and almost bloodshed. "It is now regarded as the most just, equitable and easily enforced of all our tax measures If there is such a thing as a popular tax, the Mississippi sales tax, in my opinion, is popular."

Farm population of Oregon is 250,000 or a little less than one-fourth. Objective of taxation under the present conditions is to relieve property taxpayers, represented in a large measure by the farmer. With everyone carrying part of the burden it seems reasonable that it would do what its proponents claim-distribute the burden more equally and among many who do not contribute anything toward maintaining government.

It isn't a question of what we would like. Human nature dictates that taxation for the other fellow is O. K., but not when it hits us. Reductions in governmental costs must come, but it is very, very doubtful if it can be reduced sufficiently to eliminate the necessity for a state tax on property, which is now groaning under a load that it cannot stand.

Income tax is the fairest method of raising revenue, and exemptions should be fairly low so that all participate in the cost of government. The people, however, in November turned thumbs down on the income tax proposal of the tax equalization league,

which lowered exemptions and increased rates.

The money must come from some place, but where? The general attitude on who is to pay is "Let George do it."

City of Hillsboro rightly asks the highway commission to finance that part of the proposed improvement of the Tualatin valley highway lying within the city limits. Abutting property owners have paid out many thousands of dollars to build the highway street, only to have it battered down by the heavy highway traffic. The proceedure of assessing the abutting property the heavy costs of such an improvement practically amounts to confiscation and cannot be tolerated.

Experience in other states has shown that elimination of utility companies from selling merchandise in their lines has been a detriment to the welfare of the commonwealth. Sales effort of the utilities has stimulated purchases from the independent dealer, it has been shown. Newspaper comments from Kansas, particularly, point out the economic loss of such a move as provided in a measure before the legislature.

The splendid and untiring efforts of Hillsboro and Forest Grove firemen in fighting Hillsboro's disastrous blaze Sunday morning is appreciated by everyone in the community. The spirit of co-operation and willingness to help in a time of need was evidenced in every quarter, where individuals were putting forth every effort to help save as much property as possible.

Oregon must come to a lower automobile license fee, either a \$3 or \$5 flat payment. Many cars are kept off the road now because people are unable to pay the high license fees. More cars increase the returns from gasoline taxes. The plan as suggested by Senator Edwin Allen of this county sounds the best of all and should receive earnest consideration from legislators.

Italy, press reports state, wants to settle its debt to the United States in a lump payment. The debt is approximately \$2,-000,000,000 and the Italians would like to settle for \$100,000, 000. Most anyone would like to settle on a one to twenty basis. It clearly shows the liberality of our former allies.

Higher education budgets have been materially reduced to help in cutting the tax bill. Legislators want to cut more. One of the biggest mistakes comes from having three normal schools in the state, when one would be sufficient to fill the needs and

It is to be hoped that a modern building with every convenience for the accommodation of business houses and offices of professional men will replace the burned Commercial block. That location in Hillsboro will always attract tenants.

Dairymen rightly plead before congressional committee for a tax on oleomargarine. The dairy farmer is staggering under the property tax burden and its competitor should help carry some of

Pomona Grange will seek to bring the 1934 state grange session to Hillsboro, which will be happy to entertain the members of the farm organization.

Japan now ready for emergency.-headline. Seems like she has been working for this emergency for sometime.

Solons Would Cut

Hillsboro Argua established 1894 Hillsboro Independent established 1873

McKINNEY & McKINNEY, Publishers

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W. VERNE McKINNEY Editor

MRS. E. C. McKINNEY Associate Ed.

Oregon State Editorial Association

National Editorial Association

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

National Editorial Association

Saboulatle Editorial Association

Saboulatle Editorial Association

National Editorial Association

Saboulatle Editori of Washington County

In the means that under the program sponsored by Senator Dunne the tax against this class of mother tax against tax against tax against tax against this class of mother tax against tax agains

of Oregon would contribute approximately \$2,225,877 a year in MacM

panies which are now coming into possession of many Oregon farms

Would Fix Fees

Representatives McAlear and character have larged to the Kuratli & Wismer of the control of the fitter of the control of the fitter of the Kuratli & Wismer of the control of the fitter of the Kuratli & Wismer of the control of the fitter of the kuratli & Wismer of the control of the fitter of the kuratli & Wismer of the control of the kuratli & Wismer of the kuratli & Wis Johnson have joined in the intro-duction of a measure fixing fees

Water soaking through

Economies Cited tee this week Morgan enumerates erty and disbursing officer from "a number of extraordinary and Salem, was here Sunday to inspec

work of the office has increased. Wooton from Salem. I have already had 30 criminal cases this month so I feel that I more than earn every cent of my mayor Phelps about 3 o'clock in Americanization committee of

store the right to a deputy who could not possibly be secured here for less than \$100 per month, thus resulting in a considerable net increase rather than a reduction,"

A number of electrical instruments in the office of Dr. Peck estimated that his loss amount cets rather than a reduction,"

A number of electrical instruments in the office of Dr. Peck milter will also work out something in connection with the "Buy American" movement.

To investigate the handling of the flag at the court house. This committee will also work out something in connection with the "Buy American" movement.

MOTOR OVERHAUL: crease rather than a reduction."

If the committee persists in going ahead with its salary slashing program he asks that he be given an opportunity to appear in person to further plead his case.

Slight damage occurred in the McDowell barber shop adjoining the Groner portion of the building Merchandise and component of Hiller Mr. and Mrs. Robinstall piston rings in the McDowell barber shop adjoining the Groner portion of the building Merchandise and component of Hiller Mr. and Mrs. Robinstall piston rings in the Marchandise and component of Hiller Mr. and Mrs. Robinstall piston rings in the Marchandise and component of Hiller Mr. and Mrs. Robinstall piston rings in the Marchandise and component of Hiller Mr. and Mrs. Robinstall wrist pins

Distastrous Fire

People quickly gathered from page 1) placed at any definite sum. One of the few complete law codes of the state of Oregon was owned by the brothers and was partially destroyed by fire and water. Many of the books are now out of print and irreplaceable. Thousands of volumes of federal and state reports, as well as text books, were ports, as well as text books, were included in the library. The coincided was provided by the place of the city and surrounding country. Many volunteered help in an effort to save property and their assistance was greatly and their assistance was greatly appreciated by those burned out.

Lorain Cawrse of Schefflin, former high school athlete, suffered from all sections of the city and surrounding country. Many volunteered help in an effort to save property and their assistance was greatly appreciated by those burned out.

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Lorain Cawrse of Schefflin, former high school athlete, suffered from all sections of the city and surrounding country. Many volunteered help in an effort to save property and their assistance was greatly and thei ncluded in the library. The col-ness shop. A nail went through his ection was started by the late hand. Congressman Thomas Tongue Sr., who began practice here in 1869. Most of the files of the brothers were carried out during the fire. Offices were opened Monday in kept the sumple of offices. Were the sumple of offices were opened Monday in kept the sumple of offices. Offices were opened Monday in kept the supply of coffee going the Wells building. Miller store stock and fixtures ed bakery goods. Mrs. W. O. Mor-

were almost a complete loss, the ley prepared coffee furnished by

Recorder's Office roof falling into most of the store. Oakes' Grocery.

Carl Miller stated that the stock The Commercial building was valued at \$10,000, partially constructed in 1890, and was oc-

torist would be increased by \$1.35 a year, although the owner of the big cars which pay high licenses under the present system would, of course, reap material benefit under the lower tax."

Allen has compiled figures to show that under his plan motorists of Oregon would contribute apof or Oregon would contribute apof of Oregon would contribute apof Oregon would contribute apof or Oregon would contribute apof or

average combined fee for new cars would amount to \$19.54 some 94,000 cars of the more popular priced makes and over five years of age which are now on the registration rolls would pay only \$7 a year in combined fees.

The plan, according to Allen, has been worked out with a view to equalizing the tax burden and relieving the owners of old cars who are most in need of relief at this time.

Battles Wolf Creek

Battles Wolf Creek

Senator Dunne h as definitely launched his drive against the Wolf creek highway. A bill introduced

Much of the equipment and records in the offices of Dr. Dresser on the first \$10,000 with an additional exemption for each beneficiary of the gift. The next \$10,000 would be subject to a tax of four per cent with a graduated scale of tax rates running to 25 per cent on gifts in excess of \$1,000,00. The bill is regarded as a revenue measure but there is no experience upon which to base an estimate upon the probable amount to be realized through its application.

Much of the equipment and records in the offices of Dr. Dresser reached the fire so of the first \$10,000 the bill is regarded as a revenue measure but there is no experience upon which to be as an estimate upon the probable amount to be realized through its application.

Much of the equipment and records in the offices of Dr. Dresser reached the fire so of the following cases of St. One will be paroled on the G. S. V. G.; Joseph Flint, R. S. V. A. Friday and Agen on Thursday. G.; Mr. A. Griffer vere in the following cases in the following cases and books. But destroyed a well as State Industrial Accident commission, order entering mandate; Commissaly Miss. Blen Zwiener and Alfred

possession of many Oregon farms through mortgage foreclosures. With a view to breaking up these holdings the senator had joined with Representative Dickson in sponsoring as a bill previous for a covered by insurance. Representative Dickson in sponsoring a bill providing for a capital levy or graduated property tax. The measure provides for an exemption on the first \$10,000 of assessed value in property. On the first \$10,000 taxable value he proposed to levy a tax of one-half of one per cent, gradually scaling this tax upward until it taxes three per derivative Dickson in sponsor, in a bill providing for a capital levy or graduated property tax. The loss has been made, but equiponed the loss has been made, but equiponed in the loss has been made, but equiponed the substance of the loss has been made, but equiponed the many friend star music.

The loss has been made, but equiponed the loss has been made, but equiponed the loss has been made, but each loss has been made, bu cent annually of the assessed value on property in excess of \$30,- by Friday. Books, records and furniture valued at \$500 in the of-

Water soaking through the ceil ing and smoke damage caused som peace. Under its provisions the regular filing fee would be \$2.50, with a defendant's appearance fee of \$1.50 and a trial fee of \$2.00.

Feonomies Cited

Water soaking through the ceil ing and smoke damage caused som loss to Smith Grocery stock. Mer chandles was moved temporarily to the old Suitatorium location on Second street. Equipment in the ceil ing and smoke damage caused som loss to Smith Grocery stock. Mer chandles was moved temporarily to the old Suitatorium location on Second street. Equipment in the ceil ing and smoke damage caused som loss to Smith Grocery stock. Mer chandles was moved temporarily to the old Suitatorium location on Second street. Economies Cited

G. Russell Morgan, district attorly \$5000, according to Lt. Arthu ney for Washington county, does not take kindly to the proposal to slash 19 per cent of his monthly glasses and 5500 rounds of amount glasses and 5500 rounds of amount glasses and 5500 rounds of amount glasses. slash 19 per cent of his monthly pay check as is proposed by the legislative ways and means committee. In a letter to the committee. In a letter to the committee that the state arsenal at Clackama Monday. Lt. Col. Shur, U. S. prop

ture in its demand for reduction in public expenditures.

"Washington county has had deputy district attorney for over 20 years, during the past seven years, of which the salary of such deputy has been \$1800 per year, Morgan points out. "Prior to and upon assuming office January 3 of this year I agreed to conduct the office without the assistance of such deputy and I am saving the taxpayers \$1800 per year, I do not know of another district attorney in the state whose deputy has thus been cut off or who has effected such as axing, amounting to a reduction of 40 per cent in the salaris of district attorney and deputy or a saving of 66 2-3 per cent of my stenographer has been reduced from \$75 per month to 860 per month or 20 per cent. To top it off the work of the office has increased. have already had 30 criminal serious parts of the such as have already had 30 criminal serious parts of the such as larged and a second floor of the edit of the office has increased. I have already had 30 criminal serious public expenditures.

When Lt. Kroeger arrived, just after the alarm was given, he impact of the the first the during high school gyna deep the for over other arrived, just after the alarm was given, he in mediately went to the armory, far the the armory, far the save given property which the to the armory, far the saving of the save with the town the orderly room since last August to prevent thefts or damage to the orderly room since last August to prevent thefts or damage to the schedule games with the town than for the town team, seem the for damage to sheddle games with the town the schedule games with the town the schedule games with the town the schedule games with the town the substitution of the substitution of the substitution of the saving and per the fort of amage to the substitution of t

ing. Merchandise and equipment ert Holland of Hitcon, January 28. Install wrist pins from the Ivy Beauty shop and a boy, Spicker's harness shop were re-

Out for Burglary

MacMarr store opened in the purchase land on the grounds of license fees and taxes. While the average combined fee for new cars conduct a fire sale. They will re-

Tillamook, Next Tuesday they will Fayram receiving high score at play Newberg in the second game bridge, and Mrs. Brown at runmy.

		he second game
of the season.		
Hilbi (37)		(25) Beaverton
Chiotti (12)	F	(3) Bronkey
		(13) Shively
Sutherland (10) .	C	Jackson
		(5) Wirts
Dinamore (5)	- G	(3) Brandl
Grogan (2)	33	(1) Boeckli
Sorenson (2)	- 8	Wilson
	S	Mason
Smith	S	
Hilbi (22)		(25) McMinnville
Chiotti (2)	F	(5) Fink
Rasmussen (4)	F	(5) Tistadt
Sutherland (7)	C	(8) Versteeg
Dinamore (7)	G	(1) Thurston
		(6) Shelton
		Holmes
		Maritikan

"a number of extraordinary and particular reasons" why his salary should not be subjected to the loss. Equipment will be resisted as soon as sultable quarters trimming suggested by the legislature in its demand for reduction in public expenditures.

When Lt. Kroeger arrived, just a grant part of the public expenditures.

When Lt. Kroeger arrived, just a grant part of the part

Investigated by Legion

"I am sorry that I have no altime that the weakened wall would my instance would necessarily re"I am sorry that I have no altime that the weakened wall would at the post meeting Friday night to investigate the handling of the For the next 15 days buys the fol-

Sohler-To Mr. and Mrs. Will Strikes Hillsboro moved by spectators when the Sohler, January 24, a girl, flames threatened the building. Kemper—To Mr. and Mrs. Frank People quickly gathered from Kemper, January 25, a boy.

"Let Jim Clean It"

Closed Saturdays

Trio Grandchildren Born Within 72 Hours

Birth of two grandsons and a granddaughter within 72 hours was the exciting news received this week by Mr. and Roy. The three proud fathers

The first grandson arrived at 1 o'clock Saturday morn ing at Gales Creek, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Vandehey. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Vandehey of Cornelius at 8 o'clock Saturday morning. The last of the trio of grandchildren was born to Mr. and Mrs. Leo Vandehev of Roy Tuesday morning at 12:30 o'clock.

Fraternal

Makes Quick Move
Senator Dunne has definitely launched his drive against the Wolf creek highway. A bill introduced binday across Second street to the former location of Reicherts' marking the senate this week by the solon from Multnomah and Columbia counties would eliminate the short-cut route from the state highway map. At the same time Senator Dunne introduced another bill providing for relocation of portions of the Columbia river highway and widening of this road for its entire distance between the Multnomah of the offices of Dr. Dresser proposal provides for an exemption on the first Studies of the Representative McAlear would impose a heavy tax on gifts. The McAlear proposal provides for an exemption on the first Studies of the State of the sum of the offices of Dr. Dresser darks and provides for an exemption on the first Studies of the sum of t

elected as follows: Mrs. L. F. Emmott, president; Mrs. Lloyd Brown, vice-president, and Mrs. E. L. february 7 at the East Side Commercial club hall, Portland, beginning at 10:30 a. m. Reports will be ning at 10:30 a. m. Reports will be not be a controlled to the president.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Brown, on Naturalization classes will be Thursday night, February 9, with held next Monday night at 7 o'clock Mrs. Fayram as assisting hostess. in the county court room, accord-

YEAR'S COMMITTEE

Mrs. Natalie VanMoock, most excellent chief of Phoenicia Temple, Pythian Sisters, made the following committee appointments at the meeting Friday night: Mrs. Frank Barr, Mrs. T. C. Reynolds and Mrs. W. C. Christensen, flower commit-tee, and Mrs. John Gardner and

OWNERS SERVICE ! Americanization committee of the \$16.85 Parts & Labor

MOTOR OVERHAUL:

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burg, Alaska; and three sisters, For Sale-Old newspapers at the Mrs. Ella Pace of Portland, Mrs. Argus office, 10e per bundle. Viola McQueen of Holley, and Mrs. Louisa Paddock of Sweet

MRS. MARTHA J. CUMLEY Funeral services for Mrs. Martha Pate Cumley, 78, who died in Portland Friday, were held here Sat-urday at the Methodist Episcopal hurch. Interment was in the Hills

boro cemetery. She is survived by the widower, David E. Cumley of Portland, an three daughters, Mrs. C. N. Smidt, Mrs. David R. Bell and Mrs. Fred J. Sechtem, all of Portland. Two sisters and two brothers survive as follows: Mrs. A. D. Whiting, Cor. nelius; Mrs. Z a d y Limebarger, Chico, Cal.; L. T. Striplin, Lake-view, and M. A. Striplin, Selma, Cal.

MRS. LOUISA GILLETT Mrs. Louisa Gillett, 86, died at

the home of her daughter, Mrs.

tion.

Holdings Opposed
Senator Zimmerman believes that the state should discourage large land holdings by investment companies which are now coming into panies which are now coming in the panies wh Visitors from Beaverton, Scott clerk for signal supervisor and

Even in Past Tilts Moore, secretary-treasurer.
Following the business meeting, games were played, Mrs. S. E. districts 2, 4, 5 and 6 will be elect-

Class to Meet

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SAN FRANCISCO \$15.00 \$20.00 LOS ANGELES \$22.00 \$30.00 LOS ANGELES and many others

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Hillsboro MAYS BROS. North Plains CHAS. KESSLER Banks POTTER-TRASK Scholls