

FIT LICENSE RATE FAVORED

Change Suggested by Hoss In View of Situation in North and South

A flat \$3 license fee for passenger automobiles, with rates on trucks to be based on the known wear and tear on the highways, was recommended in a statement issued Saturday by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state.

Hoss declared that he made the recommendation after a careful analysis of state highway financing problems and an earnest study of the license schedules of other Pacific coast states. He suggested that the proposed reduction in automobile license fees be initiated and submitted to the voters at the next general election.

"The law will give sufficient time for all necessary adjustments to be made to fit the new schedules," Hoss declared.

Hoss said the motorists of Oregon, in view of the flat \$3 license fee in both California and Washington, the latter becoming effective next January, are justly demanding relief from the present comparatively high fees. The average fee on Oregon passenger cars is now \$22.

"As the administrative official of the state, charged with the enforcement of the license regulations and traffic laws, I am qualified to state that the low license fees to the south and north of us are a grave factor in our problem in Oregon. Whereas we have thousands of violations to contend with in view of the California license, it is my conviction that when Washington sells plates for \$3 that we will have to contend with literally tens of thousands of violators, with consequent and greatly increased costs to the department."

Points to General Economic Situation
"Many other items enter into my reasons for thus advocating a low license fee for Oregon. First and foremost, the present economic situation demands relief. The fact that thousands of Oregon cars are not being licensed, that new cars are not being purchased, and that there has been a steady decline in state gas receipts since January. People have not benefited by the anticipated revival of industrial and commercial activity, and all point to the need for some speedy method of saving money. To be considered perhaps only as temporary, a plan of low fees could be adopted, supplemented if necessary by another cent gas tax.

"I sincerely believe the \$3 fee will meet the hearty approval of a very large majority of the taxpayers. I have already discussed the plan with the Oregon state motor association, various editors and good roads enthusiasts have been contacted and their suggestions included in my findings."

"With no desire whatsoever to invade others' rights or to interfere with any program of progress, I respectfully suggest that there would still be revenue enough to carry on the essential functions of the highway program; that in round numbers they would still receive enough for the following needs: regular bond interest, regular bond redemption, maintenance of highways, secondary highway system, administration and engineering, draw bridges and ferries, state police system, and miscellaneous items. Over \$4,000,000 would be available for new construction if bonds in the amount of \$2,000,000 were issued to match federal aid."

Saving at Least Four Millions
"A return of between four and five million dollars a year to the motorists of Oregon, I hold, will be a direct relief. That sum represents approximately 10 per cent of the total annual property tax burden of the whole state, estimated for 1932 at about \$50,000,000. It represents almost entirely the tax levied for state purposes; the new figures of the state tax commission disclosing a levy on property of \$2,111,525.89 outside the six per cent limitation; and a base within the limitation of \$2,891,554.52—or a total of \$5,003,080.21. Thus it can be seen that a return of an equivalent sum to the almost 275,000 motor owners of Oregon would be a return indeed welcomed."

Oregon leads the nation in road building: an investment of \$150,000,000, or the highest per capita expenditures for roads in America. To go at "slow bell" for a couple of years will injure nothing; resting on the cars at this juncture will be a breathing spell relished by all our people. As far as my own department is concerned, I see several places where corresponding costs can be decreased and eliminated in connection with the inauguration of a low license fee.

"We now pay over a thousand dollars a month to register non-residents and apprehend and convict violators of our license laws—this whole bureau can be abolished when we have a fee low enough to obviate evasion. Office costs can be saved up, traffic laws better and more economically enforced, costs can be cut everywhere. County road construction, under the abbreviated schedule, would of course have to be slowed up in keeping with the income, but all public bodies, the state as well as the counties, the cities and the school districts, should heed the call of the times and economize by not spending; the time has come when we are talking economy, and to actually spend less."

"I submit this plan, admitting frankly that it is not new either in other states or in Oregon, but trusting that the new picture of the tax problem and our highway program will show, whereas in the past there may have been reasonable objection to the low license fee, especially in view of the fact that our automobiles are not as the personal property tax rolls,

Society News and Club Affairs

OLIVE M. DOAK, Society Editor

Mrs. Carl Harnisch Hostess to Club

Jefferson—Mrs. Carl Harnisch was hostess Thursday afternoon for members of the Rural Recreation club and invited guests.

In a guessing contest Mrs. Floyd Hilliker was awarded the prize. In the musical romance by Mrs. Ernest Harnisch, Mrs. Glenn Willard won the honors and received a prize. Mrs. Lois Stanton played piano selections for this contest. The rooms of the Harnisch home were adorned with beautiful bouquets of cut flowers.

Choosing the pleasant afternoon, refreshments were served by the hostess, Mrs. Almal Wills, Mrs. Glenn Willard, and Mrs. Ernest Harnisch assisted the hostess in serving. Present were Mrs. Almal Wills, Mrs. Glenn Willard, and two daughters, Kathleen and Donna Marie; Mrs. Lois Stanton, Mrs. Annie Skelton, Mrs. Floyd Hilliker, and daughter, Doris Davis, and Mrs. Roy Hillier, all of Albany; Mrs. Ernest Harnisch and daughter, Ardis Ann, of Plainview; Mrs. C. B. Harnisch, Mrs. Albert Harnisch and daughter, Donna June; Mrs. R. A. Marsh and Mrs. Bobby; and the hostess and daughter, Maccell, and son, Burnell.

Waconda Club Makes Picnic Plans

Waconda—The Waconda community members were entertained Wednesday at an all-day meeting at the home of Mrs. Fern Rucona. Time was spent working on the club quilt. This quilt is of "garden" design, and in the "Elks" colors. Upon completion it will be donated to that order to be sold and the proceeds used to add to their charity fund at Christmas time.

The president, Mrs. Fern Rucona, presided at the business meeting. Plans were discussed for the annual picnic which will be held in June at Hazel Green park. Announcement of the exact date will be made later. Members in good standing will have the admission of themselves and their families paid, as this event is planned to entertain the husbands. A cordial invitation is extended to friends.

An important feature of this picnic will be the dinner, and each family is asked to bring a well-filled basket. Committees appointed were: Lunch, Mrs. B. J. Miller, Mrs. E. J. Sharff, Mrs. C. C. Russell and Mrs. Frank Cannard; ice cream, Mrs. Robert Cole; coffee, Mrs. F. R. Nusom.

Club members present Wednesday were Mrs. C. C. Russell, Mrs. B. J. Miller, Mrs. George Lemery, Mrs. Frank Cannard, Mrs. Robert Cole, Mrs. Julian DeJardin, Mrs. E. J. Sharff, Mrs. William McGilchrist, Mrs. Allyn Nusom and the hostess, Mrs. Fern Rucona. Quilting will be the order of the day and Mrs. Robert Cole will entertain Wednesday, May 27, at her home in Mission Bottom. This will be an all-day meeting with pot-luck lunch at noon.

Hazel Green—The Nemo sewing club met with Mrs. Pearl Wood for their last meeting until October, except for the joint meeting with the Sunshine sewing club at Mrs. LaRosa's May 20. The clubs at the meeting May 20 will make definite plans for the picnic for members and families.

That the scenes have shifted, and that we are now ready to take this step, intelligently and deliberately, as friends of the highway, cognizant of the economic demand of the day for lessened expenditures."

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Sunday, May 17

Columbine gardens of Mrs. Mabel Creighton open from 2 o'clock to 3 o'clock at Joneses farm, 10 miles north of Salem on Wheatland-Waconda cross roads in Mission Bottom.

Monday, May 18

Recital of Laneta C. Bellinger, Roberts studio, 8 o'clock; invitational. Leslie P. T. A. final meeting of spring at 7:30 o'clock, in Leslie Junior high school auditorium; election of officers and program.

Tuesday, May 19

Membership day observed by W. C. T. U. in Union hall; special program. Hiawatha council, 8 o'clock, in I. O. O. F. hall; Wahkeena council from Portland will put on degree work for initiates. Social hour following. Ecclesia club party and election of officers at home of Miss Emmadell Schaubauer.

Recital of Miss Jeannette Scott, violin, Waller hall, 8:30 o'clock. American War Mothers, 2 o'clock, in American Lutheran church; last social meeting of year.

P. L. E. and P. club with Mrs. Ida Teckenberg, at her home in Macleay; potluck luncheon at noon; business and social meeting.

Wednesday, May 20

East Central circle of First Methodist church, Mrs. Frank Myers, 310 Chemeketa street.

Thursday, May 21

Faculty Woman's club, Mrs. Roy Koens, 540 LaFelle street, 2:30 o'clock.

Friday, May 22

Piano and pipe organ recital, First Presbyterian church, 8:15 o'clock, students of Frank E. Churchill. Public invited. Salem Woman's club will install officers.

Mrs. Sibyl Roberts Heads Auxiliary

Mrs. Sibyl Roberts was elected president of the Willamette auxiliary No. 2931 of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at the Wednesday meeting.

Other officers to be elected were Mrs. Gussie Shaw, past president; Mrs. Elsie Bahlemann, vice president; Mrs. Ines Holbrook, chaplain; Mrs. Lucille Tumbleson, secretary; Mrs. Helen Mangusen, treasurer; Mrs. Rachel Lantz, outside guard; Mrs. Elva Coons, inside guard; Mrs. Weseloski, trustee.

These officers will be installed June 3. A program is being planned by the auxiliary for Wednesday, May 20.

Mother's Banquet at Hazel Green

Hazel Green.—The Mothers' and Daughter's banquet given at the church Friday evening by the Women's Missionary society and Otterbein Guild was attended by 48 women and girls.

Rev. Lelia Lunkey of Portland, was the speaker. Hazel Cook, vice president of the Guild, had charge of the program. The program was given by Nora Rutherford, Hazel Cook, Pearl Darkens, Nora Rutherford, Margery Looney, Mrs. Hattie VanCleave, Alice Cook, June Dunnigan, Lucille Dunnigan, Stella Cook, Hazel Woolke, Miss Luckey.

Mrs. C. A. VanCleave is president of Women's and Iola Luckey of Girls' Missionary societies.

An interesting musical program will be that given by the Treble Clef club, women's glee club of Willamette university, Thursday night at 8 o'clock in Waller hall.

Bethel Dorcas Club Guest at Young Home

Bethel.—A most delightful meeting of the Bethel Dorcas club was held Friday at the home of Mrs. Harry Young in Salem.

It was an all-day meeting with a pot luck dinner served at noon. The work of the day was the quilt which is being made for charitable purposes.

The guest rooms were beautifully decorated with a profusion of roses and columbine.

The ladies were served at small tables, each with an effective centerpiece of pansies. The little folk had a low table under the trees on the lawn.

In the afternoon a business meeting was held with the president, Mrs. J. M. Nichols, presiding. Plans were made for the club to hold a picnic, with noon dinner, at Hazel Green June 7. A refreshment committee was appointed consisting of Mrs. Harry Young, Mrs. J. O. Landerback and Mrs. Ben Williams.

The guests of the club were Mrs. J. D. Clark, Mrs. Robert Ruback, Mrs. George Lucas, Mrs. Joe Williams, Mrs. Roy Smith, Mrs. Alta Ross and three of the guests became members of the club, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Ross. Members present were Mrs. E. W. Kitchin, Mrs. M. R. Gunter, Mrs. A. I. Eoff, Mrs. M. H. Utter, Mrs. J. G. Landerback, Mrs. Celsa Nicholas with Coralee, Lucille, Donald and Marilyn, Mrs. John Hain and Jean, Mrs. J. M. Nichols, Mrs. Harry Boles, Mrs. W. T. Brinkley, Mrs. Ben Williams and the hostess, Mrs. Harry Young.

The club will meet in June with Mrs. M. R. Gunter, with Mrs. A. I. Eoff assistant hostess.

Woman's Club is Entertained

Stayton—A past president's luncheon is scheduled for the next meeting of the Women's club. The meeting is to be held in the lovely rock garden at the J. W. Mayo home. The Mayo's property is on the irrigation ditch and they have had a veritable out door home there the past two years. A cobblestone fireplace affords ample opportunity for cooking and adds a cheerfulness in cool evenings. All club members are urged to bring a basket luncheon.

Should the weather be inclement the luncheon and meeting will be held in the club house.

The past presidents are Mrs. Edna Sloper, Mrs. J. W. Mayo, Mrs. H. J. Tate, Mrs. C. H. Brewer and Mrs. E. Gardner. The new officers will be installed by Mrs. G. B. Benton, of Silverton, past president of the county federation. The luncheon is scheduled for 12:30.

Turner.—The Methodist women of Turner held a silver tea Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. R. O. Witzell. Spring flowers made a pretty background for the many callers. A program was given in which the following people took part: Mrs. F. C. Gunning, Mrs. C. A. Bear, Mrs. R. Lee Theissen, Mrs. W. S. Burgoyne, Mrs. Mae Hadley, Mrs. R. O. Witzell, Mrs. Alice Acquith, Mrs. J. R. Cox, Helen and Helena Witzell. At the tea hour Mrs. Witzell was assisted by Mrs. Small. Guests were Mrs. J. W. Ransom, Mrs. R. Lee Theissen, Mrs. F. C. Gunning, Mrs. W. S. Burgoyne, Mrs. E. G. Prather, Mrs. Malinda Barcoe, Mrs. G. A. McKay, Mrs. Deane Tucker, Mrs. J. R. Cox, Mrs. C. A. Bear, Mrs. I. H. Small, Mrs. Jean Peary, and Mrs. Mae Hadley.

Mrs. Charles Bilyou Home From Trip

Dallas—Mrs. Charles N. Bilyou, president of the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs, returned home Sunday from Phoenix, Ariz., where she attended the council meeting of the general federation of women's clubs.

Mrs. Bilyou visited in Los Angeles, Ventura and Oakland on the return trip and attended a meeting of the first district federation in Medford Saturday.

West Stayton—The ladies of the Growers' club held their regular meeting at the Darby office, Mrs. Verza Asche, president, presiding. By unanimous vote it was decided to become a member of the County Federation of Women's clubs. As this was the last meeting of the club until September a very special program had been prepared. Mrs. Minnie Dickman, Mrs. Mildred Nickerson and Mrs. Mable Royse presented the program.

This club has been working at every meeting, concluding the season with a social afternoon and refreshments. The program committee was Mrs. Pearl Darley, Mrs. Mable Royse and Mrs. Minnie Dickman.

Monmouth—The final meeting of La Gale Douzans bridge club was held at the home of Mrs. Fred Hill Wednesday afternoon, with Mrs. Richard van Den Bosch, Mrs. Larry Wolfe and Mrs. James Gentile as hostesses. Members and guests enjoying the affair were: Mrs. A. E. Tetherow, Mrs. Wayne Reid, Mrs. H. W. Morlan, Mrs. Wolfe, Mrs. Gentile, Mrs. van Den Bosch and Mrs. Hill. Honors went to Mrs. Tetherow and Mrs. Morlan.

Central Howell—Mrs. Pearl Wood entertained the Nemo sewing club Wednesday afternoon. The time was pleasantly spent in conversation and sewing and the

hostess served a delicious lunch at the close of the afternoon. Present were Mrs. Ed Hines, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Wampler, Mrs. La Rosa, Miss La Rosa, Mrs. Henry Stafford, Mrs. Clarence Simmons, Mrs. Manning, Mrs. Homer Davis and the hostess, Mrs. Wood.

West Salem—Mrs. M. A. Groves, wife of the pastor of Ford Memorial church, was complimented Friday afternoon at a delightful party given in the church basement. About 45 ladies were present and Mrs. Groves was the recipient of many beautiful gifts. A program was given followed by refreshments of cake and ice cream.

Bethel—The May meeting of the Bethel Dorcas club will be held Thursday at the home of Mrs. Harry Young. It is to be an all day meeting with pot-luck dinner at noon.

Justice May Not Restore Driver's Revoked Licenses

A local magistrate or municipal court has no authority to restore a motor vehicle operator's license which has been suspended or revoked by order of such magistrate or court, other than upon a reversal of any conviction upon appeal, according to an opinion handed down here Saturday by Attorney General VanWinkle.

The opinion was based on a letter from the Portland municipal court, in which it was set out that a motor vehicle operator's license was revoked upon conviction of the licensee for failing to stop after the motor vehicle he was driving collided with another automobile, and in which it was recommended that the license be restored to the licensee. The opinion was requested by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state.

LUTZ IS AWARDED DAMAGES IN CASE

Damages of \$675 were awarded W. H. Lutz by the jury sitting in suit brought by Lutz against Armour and company. The jury was out about an hour. Lutz had sued for \$1425 damages for injuries sustained last February when car owned by the defendant and operated by Tom Kelly crashed into Lutz' car on the highway near Jefferson as Lutz started to turn off into a private driveway.

Plaintiff alleged that the Armour car, traveling in the same direction, gave no signal when attempting to pass Lutz' machine. In answer, defendant alleged that plaintiff turned without signaling.

Another damage case will be opened in Judge L. H. McMahon's court Monday morning, with the suit of Mrs. J. P. Molenop against the city of Salem will go to trial. She seeks monetary redress for injuries received when she tripped and fell on a wire stretched along a street parking.

Water Company Files Brief in Action by City

D. B. McBride of Portland has filed with the state engineer here application to appropriate 15 second feet of water from Poverty Creek, for mining purposes in Coos county. John Lisk of Whitney, seeks to appropriate 234 acre feet of water from Trout Creek for the irrigation of 116 acres of land in Baker county.

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