

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Meier Talks on Sales Tax

THE address of Gov. Meier on the sales tax should focus public attention on this issue which is submitted to the people at the July 21st election. The imposition of any fresh tax is generally unpopular; and this instance conforms to the rule. The governor knows he is not adding to his personal popularity in going to bat for the sales tax, which has been mauled about from Clatsop beaches to Steens mountains.

The Statesman was not friendly to the sales tax, introducing as it does a new form of taxation which in this country has always been regarded as a "nuisance" tax. But we cannot toss lightly aside the conclusions of the governor and of the legislature arrived at after thorough and patient study of the revenue needs of the state. The public should examine independently and intelligently the fiscal problems of the state; and if in doubt should accept the findings of the governor and legislature, unless it be that changes in business conditions since the legislature met have altered the picture so a sales tax is unwise.

We recognize the fact however that the public will probably reject the sales tax. There is a universal fear that each group will pay it. The merchants oppose it for fear they will be stuck with 2% on sales which would wipe out their present slim profit margins. Consumers fear it because they think they would be stuck. Obviously both cannot be right, for the tax isn't paid twice. Oddly enough the principal fight against the sales tax is waged by a farm organization, although as the bill is framed the benefit would go chiefly to the farm owning class. The principal sales of farmers escape the sales tax. Whatever is collected goes to reduce his property taxes. And the farmer as consumer would not pay so heavy a sales tax as his city brother because the farmer produces so much of his living on the farm. The tax ought to be a consumption tax, paid by the consumer and measured by the amount of goods he purchases.

The principal argument against the sales tax is that it bears most heavily on the poorer classes. If the sales tax were the sole or principal means of taxation that argument would be potent. In the form proposed however it would provide only a small proportion of total public revenues in the state. Other means of taxation would still be used: real property taxes, heavy income taxes, excise and intangibles taxes. These bear down quite heavily on men of wealth and of large incomes. The so-called poorer classes participate in the benefits of government: schools for their children, parks, roads, police and fire protection, etc. The sales tax does distribute a part of the burden of support of government upon a broader base; and some advocates of the tax support it for this reason, because it makes those who enjoy the benefits share part of the cost.

The chief reason for bringing forward the sales tax was the default in tax payments. The condition was growing desperate in many counties and school districts. The recent upturn in business if continued will enable people to pay their taxes. Whether this will come rapidly enough to meet budget demands is somewhat doubtful, because of the act which permitted the funding of delinquent taxes over a five-year term. In any event real property would still be the goat for support of the government.

One other change in conditions is distinctly favorable to the sales tax. Merchants would have had difficulty in the period of price declines in passing the tax along to customers. That would not be experienced in a period of rising prices upon which we have entered.

We have written this not to win converts to a cause, but in the interest of a fair consideration of the sales tax issue. The tax will probably go down to defeat at this election; but if the cry for relief from heavy taxes on farms and homes and real estate continues then it may hang round for years, like the income tax did before it was finally adopted. If business conditions get back to a sound normal, then the sales tax probably will not be necessary, because the drastic rates on the state income taxes should produce an abundance of revenue in years like 1926-1928. Were the outlook the same as it was the first of March when the legislature was adopting the sales tax, it would seem to us an absolute necessity in order to provide government units with real cash money to operate on. The swift changes that have come in late weeks, make that conclusion less obvious.

Regardless of the result of the coming election, we do want to congratulate Gov. Meier on having courage to resume leadership in state affairs.

McNary in Favor

THE intimation that the democrats will enter no candidate against Sen. McNary in 1936 when he seeks reelection to the senate is mate to orders reported to have gone out from Washington that Hiram Johnson is to be unopposed in California next year. Both gentlemen have gotten on well with the administration, the latter of course having been a Roosevelt bolter against Hoover; and the former, as minority leader in the senate, having done much to smooth the path of new deal legislation. As a matter of fact Sen. McNary was never more effective for Oregon interests than during the recent session. Evidently he has more drag with the democrats than he had with the Hoover administration.

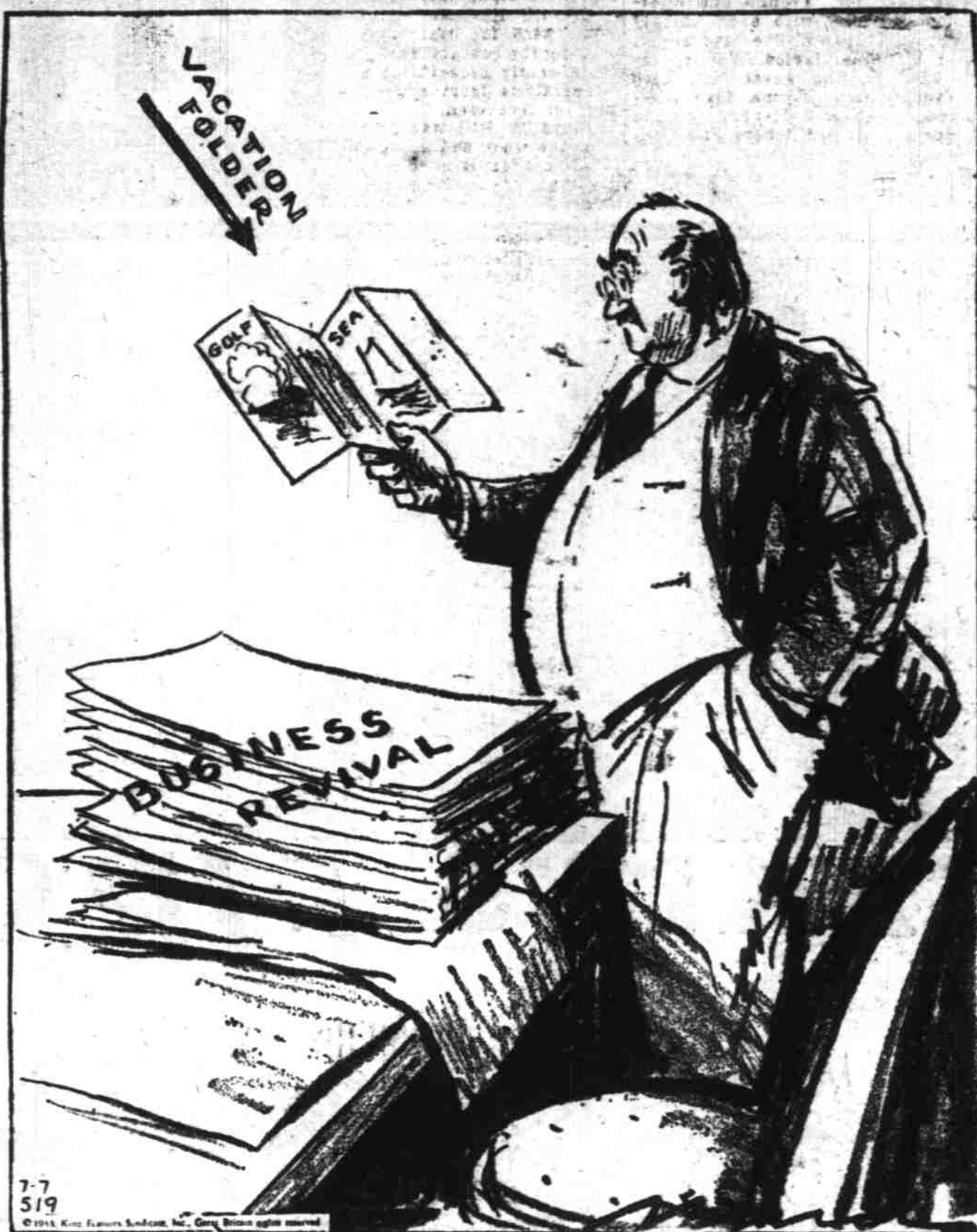
Sen. McNary is one of the ablest politicians in Washington. With the old party hacks like Watson put away in the political burying ground, McNary has the field pretty much to himself when it comes to herding the so-called republicans who remain in the senate. For skill and adroitness and for personal popularity McNary is quite without a peer in the national congress. The Oregonian suggests the possibility that McNary may have to carry the party banner in 1936. That might be, but we fancy Charley would rather return to the senate than to be a sacrifice for the gop.

A New Three-Mile Limit

THE discharged prohibition agents may get a new job with the state of Oregon. The coast guard vessels which have patrolled the "three-mile limit" or the 12-mile limit, may put wheels under their keels and take to land. For there is a new "three-mile limit." That is the one under the new truck law. Trucks operating in a city and its immediate environs are exempt from the operation of the new truck fee law. But when they cross the three-mile limit they are prey to the public tax-gatherer.

So now they are putting in three-mile markers to set the limits. Trucks operating beyond these limits stop at the

To Go or Not to Go



Director and Clerk To be Named Monday

LIBERTY, July 6 — Special school election for District No. 71 has been called for Monday, July 10 at 8 p. m., at the community hall. A school director to be elected for a three year term to fill the expired term of Mr. Williams. A clerk is also to be elected for a one year term, succeeding Mrs. Raymond Cleveland.

MISSILE FINDS MARK

SILVERTON, July 6 — Ruth Lewis has been suffering from an injury received on her forehead when a five-year-old child threw a sharp rock and cut her head. Ruth is wearing a bandage about her head.

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

4th of July in Salem, 1846:

(Continued from yesterday.) Dr. McLoughlin exhibited the high qualities of a Christian gentleman and a sympathizer with his fellow beings in need. But the division under Peter H. Burnett came through with comparatively few hardships and losses, owing to his cool judgment and wise leadership. The only death on the

head. Ruth is wearing a bandage about her head.

Daily Health Talks

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D., United States Senator from New York, Former Commissioner of Health, New York City

OUR MODERN, refined foods contain too little of the bulk required to make the system function properly. This is one example of the

many ways in which we are the victims of so-called "progress."

To promote normal elimination many foods have been recommended. Bulk foods of one sort and another have been tried. Bran has been "used successfully" for this purpose, but there has been considerable controversy concerning its real effect upon the human system.

At least two laboratory investigations, as well as the many experiences of physicians and laymen, have proved that with healthy men and women, bran has a definite value in promoting proper elimination.

Five Cases Out of Six

Two eminent scientists, Dr. G. R. Cowgill and A. J. Sullivan, recently completed a study of six men, all of whom had suffered from constipation for a considerable period. They reported that in five cases out of the six, the use of bran was effective in correcting the constipation. The exception was a man who was unable to tolerate bulk either in the form of bran, fruits or vegetables. This case would be diagnosed by the doctors as "irritable colon." The other persons were free from any organic disease of the gastro-intestinal tract.

These authorities and others agree that when the bowel is highly irritable, narrowed or ulcerated it should not be subjected to the over-stimulating effects of thrush or bulky foods. Such persons need specially prescribed diets, taken under medical supervision. In these cases it is not bran alone that should be avoided.

marker, take their mileage readings, and proceed. When they return they must stop again and take their readings. Then they pay fees for their ton-miles traveled beyond the three-mile limit. Wood trucks and oil trucks which operate out of towns and cities will have to keep these records for their reports and their fee payments.

If all the truck drivers are honest there will be no need for enforcement agents. But if the state decides on strict enforcement and puts a man at every three mile post on every road from every town in the state, well that ought to do something for unemployment.

A representative of the telephone company explained to Salem Rotarians Wednesday why the company couldn't reduce its rates if it is to maintain the quality of its service and pay a return to those who have invested money in the property. All of this is doubtless true; but it seems to us the speech is six months too late. Here's a friendly tip to the company, to call the man in and have him write a new speech on the need for higher rates. For when this inflation gets going good, what will happen to utilities operating on "fixed" rates is just nobody's business.

"STOLEN LOVE" By HAZEL LIVINGSTON

CHAPTER XLIII
Maise went grumbling away. Not for worlds would she let Joan know she was worried... terribly worried... Joan, surely Joan wouldn't do anything to make her feel that way... she didn't drink. There was no stale smell of gin in the room... Maise shuddered. She remembered that smell... Joan's...
"I've had my share of trouble," she told the coffee pot. "Oh well... I only hope everything's all right with Joan. I don't like it..."

"You'd better phone Fanny," she said, still in the kitchen, scolding some one about the coffee pot. "an' tell her I overslept, and you're going to be good and late. Fanny's never anywhere on time herself but I know how she is if anybody else is late..."

"Yes," Joan said dolefully. She looked more natural now that she was bathed and dressed for the day. And certainly she had not been crying. That was one good sign. Or Maise thought it was one good sign. She remembered that she had never cried in the old days, when she was eating her heart out for that second Bill...

"You'd better call her now," Maise said severely. "All right..." But it was Curtis's number she called when Maise had gone bustling down the back stairs to company for the entire journey. She was a servant of Mrs. Barnett, drowned by stepping on the edge of a canoe which sheered from under her, when she fell in the Columbia river and disappeared.

At the first election held by ballot at the polls for officials of the provisional government, on the second Tuesday of May, 1846, Burnett was chosen a member of the legislative committee (legislature) of nine members; only eight, however, were chosen. Yarnall district (afterward county) not choosing a member. Burnett was chosen from Tualatin district, which had four, Champco (Marion) three, and Clackamas one. The body met June 18 at Oregon City, in the residence of Felix Hathaway, and Burnett acted temporarily as secretary of state. Dr. John E. Long, who had been chosen at the election, having just been drowned while fording on horseback the Clackamas river.

Burnett was chairman of the judiciary committee, and he had the great task in hand of whipping loosely framed constitution and laws, enacted by viva voce vote at Champco July 5, 1846, in open meeting under the blue sky. The work was well done; a review of it too long for this article.

It was so well done that, after some amendments were made at the first session of the next year (1846), and the whole of it, and all that had been framed up by date submitted to a vote of the people, and carried by an almost unanimous majority (255 to 22), the laws of the Oregon provisional government became the basis when its government was organized and set in motion, with Peter H. Burnett himself the first governor.

The 1846 provisional government legislature, then consisting of 13 members, elected Peter H. Burnett supreme judge. That is how he came to be called Judge Burnett when he delivered the oration of July 4, 1846, at Oregon City.

There began in the 1846 session the long fight of Salem to become the capital city of Oregon. Abner, representing the long dominant Methodist interest.

Peter H. Burnett was appointed one of the federal judges of Oregon, by President Polk, after the country, then constituting all west of the Rockies and north of the Mexican (California) line and south of the present Canadian line, became a territory.

But his commission reached him in the California mines, whence he had gone following the gold rush, leader of a large Oregon contingent going overland by and profitably engaged there by that time that he declined the office. As indicated above, he became the first governor of our sister state, "broken into" the territorial form, or anything but a provisional gesture of the provisional form, largely through the adventurous men who went to the mines from Oregon; nearly all of them from the central Willamette valley.

Then (1850), the only man in congress from west of the Rockies was Samuel R. Thurston, territorial delegate of Oregon, elected in 1848. Thurston made the great speech, of many great speeches, that went far in that breaking in to the union of the golden state. The fight over the extension of

somebody else's arms about her. Someone holding her close, someone whispering to her, loving her, perhaps... Good God—what if that were the man... it might be... it might be someone he met every day of his life... someone who would take his hand and congratulate him, with his tongue in his cheek. "Lucky boy, Barstow!" Luck boy—getting the girl I love... He'd wipe his damp forehead... that couldn't go on. Impossible to go through life, wondering that way. Better never to see her again. Never to see her... to let her go forever? Joan with the skin like velvet, the sweet red lips... Impossible to leave her... to give her up now... with the wedding date set, and the plans all made...

"I'm going crazy!—Crazy!" he thought desperately. And when the gaiety was at its height, and the music was mounting to its height of abandon, when she was dancing, laughing, with Bert...

"For heaven's sake, let us get out of here," Curtis said. Cunningham, he brought her her coat. "For heaven's sake, let us get out of here," he said.

Lyle Barstow set down her teacup with a little tinkling sound. "But he must have said something," she said. "It isn't like Curtis to go off without a word!"

"No, he didn't. I didn't see him at all," Joan repeated dully. She had seen something if he held on hour, but still the legislation went on. "Yes, but he wouldn't have gone all the way to Seattle to finish that case alone. Mr. Kennedy himself said it wasn't necessary. He didn't know why Curtis went, and I'm sure I can't understand it. Why should he get on the train so suddenly, and take that long miserable trip when a few telegrams, or even a telephone conversation would have done as well?"

"I don't know, Mrs. Barstow." "Nonsense—of course, you know. He wouldn't have gone off that way without some reason. You are sure you didn't quarrel, Joan?"

"No, we didn't quarrel." "Not that there would be any excuse for quarreling with Curtis. There never was anyone so easy to get along with as he. Joan, I don't want to hurt you, but have you understood Curtis? He hasn't been himself since—since this engagement. My dear, do you think you will make him happy? Wouldn't it be better?"

Joan just twisted her handkerchief in her hands. "You see what I mean. If you can't get along, surely it is better to admit it now. Much as I'd hate to see it broken off—"

Curtis had no intention of calling at Baker's. As Kennedy said, the work was finished. He simply went because he had to go somewhere, and it was the first place that occurred to him. He had to get away from Joan and San Francisco. Had to get away to think...

And besides—there was Blanche. It was lonely in the hotel, lonely and quiet. Too rainy and dismal to walk in the park. He couldn't think any better here than he could home... he was a fool to have come...

He went down to the desk to see about a check book. No. He wasn't ready to go home yet. Not for a little while. He'd run out and see Blanche, Blanche would be home...

Blanche had housekeeping rooms in an old house way out on Fifth Street. It was amusing what Blanche had accumulated with a few yards of yellow chintz, and a can of green paint. Blanche was a great housekeeper, and a great cook. He got to thinking about her chicken with mushrooms and garlic, Italian style, and a big dish of spaghetti on the side... that, and a couple of bottles of beer...

"Sure!" she said when he telephoned. "Bring the chicken, and I'll get busy on it. I got six bottles of good beer. Fred brought in on the last trip... No, he ain't in port now, not until the 22nd. Gee, I'm glad you're in town. I was kinda homesick. Gloria has been talking about you, too. Only this morning she said to me, 'Mamma, who does Uncle Curt come no more?'—the poor kid, she likes you!"

(To Be Continued Tomorrow)

Champoeg, in each of which meetings, and as a member of the committee forming the constitutional government constitution and laws, holding its sessions at the old Methodist mission, he took a most prominent part.

While he was in charge of construction at the Wallace prairie site, Mr. Gray and wife entertained Narcissa Whitman while Dr. Williams was on his trip east (1842-1843), and it was during those days the first book ever written in Oregon, "The Prairie Flower," by S. W. Moss, was put into form there.

These, and many other things, serve to make Salem and its surroundings the location of the most important events of epochal history west of the Rocky mountains. As related to American history, it was here that the seeds were planted for the movement extending the arc of the republic from the sands of the Pacific—and the centenary celebration next year of the coming of Jason Lee will start a movement that will give the stamp of value to this high heritage that will echo in substantial benefits around the whole earth, and will grow with the years, indefinitely.

PLANS HOP



RUB INTO FREIGHT INDEPENDENCE, July 6 — Mrs. S. R. Skeels ran into a passing freight train on Monmouth street Friday, doing considerable damage to her car and causing some injury to herself. She did not see the approaching train until too late to make a change in her course. Mr. and Mrs. Skeels live on a small farm near Talmage.

GOES TO LOS ANGELES SILVERTON, July 6 — Miss Helen Canada left Wednesday for Los Angeles where she will spend several months. Her mother will join her there later in the summer. Mrs. Canada has another daughter living at Los Angeles.

Caesare Sabelli, former Italian war hero, who will shortly attempt a solo flight from New York to Rome, Italy, over the southern route. Sabelli attempted such a flight with Roger Q. Williams in 1928, but was forced to return to Old Orchard. He now is in a serious trouble.