

Capital Journal

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Only Cut U. S. Timber Taxed

The Oregon State Tax Commission has ruled in an opinion sent Lane County Assessor Winfred S. Smith that federal timber contracted for sale to a private party is not subject to a real property tax. It is exempt until it has been cut, when it is subject to the personal property tax.

The commission criticized the assessor sharply for sending out notices to more than 40 Lane county lumbermen that he would levy a real property tax in the standing federal timber held under contract from the Bureau of Land Management and U. S. Forest Service.

Notices had been sent to purchasers of \$15 million worth of timber bought from the federal agencies in 1955, classifying the timber as omitted property and proposed assessment under a state statute which says that real and personal property of the United States held by any person under contract of sale shall be assessed.

The commission said that the federal sales contracts cover the sale of "severed timber and not standing timber, that timber purchased thereunder is not assessable as real property but shall be assessable as personal property upon severance."

The timber sales contracts "are agreements for the transfer of personal property... taxation of such personal property shall not be made until the timber is severed by the purchaser."

Since the contracts of two federal agencies are involved this change in title comes at different stages after the timber is cut.

Taxation of timber sold under contract from the state forester "must await a more detailed study of the contracts" the commission stated.

The statutes in which procedure is contained is ORS 306.110 which reads: "The State Tax Commission shall construe the tax and revenue laws of this state whenever requested by any interested person or by any officer acting under such laws and shall instruct such officers as to their duties under such laws. Such officers shall submit all questions arising with them which affect the construction of tax and revenue laws of the state to the commission."

This statute was enacted to insure state tax laws would be applied uniformly and insure taxpayers they would not be unduly harassed by over-zealous assessing officials.—G. P.

The Oregon State Tax Commission has ruled in an opinion sent Lane County Assessor Winfred S. Smith that federal timber contracted for sale to a private party is not subject to a real property tax. It is exempt until it has been cut, when it is subject to the personal property tax.

Federal Financing of Campaigns

Senator Neuberger is more nearly right than he usually is when he proposes that the federal government pay the cost of our political campaigns, presumably allocating the same amount to each major party. What would be done about minor parties is not stated, but this might be handled by granting them amounts in proportion to the number of votes they cast at the last election. Since there are no longer any minor parties of importance this is not much of a problem at present.

There is no question about the abuses inherent in the present system. It takes money, more of it every election, it seems, to finance a successful campaign. A candidate or party with a prospect for success can get the needed funds. But those who grant them are likely to expect favors in return which they shouldn't have. There is a real need to free our officials from dependence upon persons and organizations with axes to grind. We'd have better government if this could be done.

We are sympathetic with Neuberger's proposal, which has been suggested many times before and is not new, but there are two hurdles in its way, aside from the reluctance of the people to assume a new spending obligation.

The first is moral. Can we properly deprive the people of their inherent right to promote their ideas through use of their funds to support and oppose candidates and policies they believe in or oppose? Wouldn't this remove the government farther from the people?

The second is practical. Suppose the government does provide what congress thinks is "enough" money for a campaign. How can it prevent people using their funds for and against candidates and parties? Attempts to control spending by corrupt practices laws, federal and state, have been uniformly ineffective because there are so many ways to evade them. Would this proposal be any different if enacted?

But with the spending abuse growing it certainly merits a new look.

Let 'Em Squirm Now

High McElhenney, ex-University of Washington football great, put the Pacific Coast conference and its commissioner, Victor Schmidt on a hot spot when he revealed that he and his wife enjoyed an income of \$800 a month while he was playing for Washington, and that Schmidt knew about it.

There was no secret, McElhenney pointed out, explaining that he paid income tax on the money. "It was all on the up and up. We worked for it."

There certainly wasn't any secret. Almost everybody knew about McElhenney's prosperity. It was a nationwide chuckle in sports circles that McElhenney was the only college football player who ever took a pay cut when he changed from amateur (A) to pro status.

Meanwhile the conference was solemnly flashing out fines to Idaho and Oregon State for minor infractions, while it looked the other way at the professionalization of sport in one—perhaps more than one—of the rich institutions who had what it took to take up the top flight light.

Schmidt and his employees should be squirming now. Yet one wonders: A University of Washington regent was quoted the other day to the effect that the uproar was already dying down. All the Washington revolution did was to make officials a knowledge all except conference officials were sure they already had.

The Russkies Have Got 'Em

Russia gave the free world, particularly the U.S. sector of it, bad news Saturday, touching off where we are most sensitive, in our atomic-hydrogen nerve centers.

Defense Minister Georgi K. Zhukov said the Soviet Union has "mighty guided missiles" which it is prepared to use and which can be dropped anywhere. If this were not enough, a Thursday speech by Anastas Mikoyan, another Soviet bigwig was released. He mentioned hydrogen as well as atomic bombs and asserted that Russia has "means of bringing them by planes or rockets to any spot on the globe."

Both men proudly asserted that Russia wants peace, presumably meaning "with anyone able to retaliate in kind." They didn't want peace in China or Korea, or Indo-China or Formosa. But they plainly warned that they are able, ready and willing to strike a crippling blow at the United States on mighty short notice. "You'd better not continue to obstruct our program" was what they clearly meant.

Worse of all, there is every reason to believe that they have the weapons they boast of. What protection have we? None except the power of effective retaliation, all that is restrained from an all-out blow aimed at world domination, and all that will. Let them think for a moment they can strike without fear of retaliation, and you'd better bet for that bomb cellar, which had better be very, very deep.

Training School



Business Leaders Predict 30-Hour Wk. Within 10 Yrs.

By GEORGE GALLUP
 Director, American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N. J., Feb. 17—A majority of the American people believe that the day will come when industries will have a 30-hour work week—a plan often advanced by union leaders as a means of opening up more jobs.

But the public doesn't think the shorter week is "just around the corner." Of those who believe industry will eventually have such a schedule (57 per cent), the average guess as to when it will take effect is about 10 years from now.

It is interesting to note that among the different occupation groups, the professional and business people—those who could have the most to say about a shorter work week—are the most inclined to believe that there will be a 30-hour week eventually.

Their average guess as to when it might be is 10 years.

Union members, themselves, are a good deal more inclined to think there will be a 30-hour week than is the general public. Nearly seven out of 10 union members think there will be a shorter work week some day.

The first question that experienced institute reporters asked a representative cross-section of the American public:

"Do you think the time will come when we will have a 30-hour work week in industry?"

The vote of all adults:

Yes	57%
No	28
Don't know	15

The second question, asked of all those who said they thought of the shorter work week would come:

"Just your best guess, how soon do you think this will be?"

Here's the public's estimate of when such a work schedule might become common:

In two years or less	6%
In two to five years	14
In five to ten years	18
More than ten years	13
Don't know when	49

Farmers and unskilled manual workers are the least certain about a 30-hour week coming. However, of those farmers who expect industry to have a shorter week, the average guess is that it will come within five years, or in about half the time any other group is expecting it.

Men are much more certain about the coming of the short work week than are women. People in the South are the least likely to predict such a change in the industrial work schedule.

Today's survey may give some indication of the influence that the growing trend toward automation is having in industry.

A survey taken just a little more than five years ago on the question of the 30-hour work week, found sentiment divided about the chances of such a schedule in the next 30 years. Forty-eight per cent of the public at that time thought there would be a 30-hour week in the next half-century, 39 per cent said they felt there would not, and 13 per cent had no opinion.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Only the Hardy Survive at The New Air Force Academy

By HAL BOYLE

LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Any young man who thinks admission to the new U.S. Air Force Academy here is an easy step toward a soft life in the armed forces gets a quick disillusionment.

Only the hardy survive.

Of the 300 cadets selected last summer from 6,000 applicants to join the first class of the nation's third service academy 41 have already been washed out.

The reason most of them left: The going was simply too rugged, the discipline too spartan.

The survival rate actually so far has exceeded the expectations of academy officials, who deliberately have planned a four-year course of study tough enough to strain the stoutest. They aren't interested in creating a corps of swivel-chair warriors. Each cadet signs a statement that upon graduation as a navigator-observer he will go on and become a pilot.

As Lt. Gen. Hubert R. Harmon, academy superintendent, points out:

"Today a single officer in the U.S. Air Force may be called upon to carry out a mission which, during World War II, would have required the crews of a thousand planes. That officer must have the courage, the character and the patriotism to press home his mission against any and all odds. He may have to do this alone in the skies with no other American within thousands of miles to observe his conduct."

What kind of a boy aspires to become this type of officer?

The average cadet here is 19 years old, serious-minded, a good student and comes from middle class parents. Comparatively few are from families with a professional military background. He may not be of varsity athlete caliber, but he will be in top physical condition and he has 20-20 vision.

Almost every minute of his day is rigidly controlled, from the time they rise at 5:30 a.m. and make their beds until "lights out" at 9:00 p.m.

They march to and from classes, and practically everywhere else. They spend at least 20 hours a week in class, more than that preparing their lessons. Among the arts they are expected to learn: how to deal a deadly blow effectively, how to dance gracefully.

At dinner table they practice Air Force lingo, and each cadet in turn acts as table pilot, navigator, or crew chief. When the coffee reaches the table, for example, the navigator may announce:

"Sir, the JP-4 (coffee) has completed its cross-country and is on the ramp."

Or:

"Sir, the fuel injection (water) has met its ETA and is on the ramp."

The cadets have an honor code which is unbelievably strict and to which they are fanatically loyal, as they enforce it themselves. Its main tenet is undeviating adherence to the truth.

One cadet who stepped across the hall to borrow some tobacco quibbled when asked by an officer if he had permission to leave his room. After the 12-man Cadet Honor Council investigated his case, they asked him to resign from the academy. He did.

The cadets can date twice a week, but during the first year are restricted to the base, except during parental visits. They are expected to abstain from liquor completely until graduation.

OPEN FORUM

Immunization in School Urged by This Writer

To the Editor:

The question in the minds of many laymen today is: "Why are we removing the immunization program from the schools?"

This question has been answered before many public groups in the vaguest of manner. As near as some can ascertain, the reasons given were to leave the Public Health Department free to devote more time and money to its tubercular and polio foundations.

This answer brings to mind the question: "Are the Christmas Seal program and the March of Dimes, along with numerous public grants, ineffective to the point that it is necessary to sacrifice the immunization program for such?"

The laymen have been under the impression that these foundations are established and maintained.

Are we going to be penny-wise and pound foolish or are we going to meet the situation in a sensible and civilized manner?

It is granted that we have a public health department where immunization can be received, but we have no assurance that this will continue. There are many children who will be denied the medicine and the needless and tragic deaths because of the lack of immunization. Do we want this on our conscience because of ignorance or greed, or do we want shots to be administered to a chosen few whose parents can readily afford the luxury of medicine?

Are we going to forget the great scientists and the vast amount of money that has brought about immunization for all of the people? It has been proven that immunization is ineffective if not received by all of the people and to reach everyone it has to be made accessible.

The bonds among people who associate to live in a community should go beyond the common economic interests which move them to defend the material. When it is a question of life and death and the health of our nation—that answer should be found at the polls by a vote of the people.

Mrs. Howard G. Walker
 76 S. Liberty St.

Patent Must Be Issued If Law Complied With

In his several articles concerning the Al Sarena claims Senator Neuberger fails to recognize that about all that was required of a mine claimant by the law of 1872 was that he had faith enough in his mine to put in a minimum of \$500 in development and pay the required fee. The product was of little concern except to the operator.

Under the law as it stood the claimants had met all requirements and could have compelled the authorities to issue patents as millions of other patents have been issued before for farms as well as mining claims throughout the nation.

The government now has several boards and commissions each holding an interest in public lands. Most of these were of recent origin and were not in existence or interested when the first agreement between the Al Sarena claimants and the government were entered into, that is, when the first filings were made and the first work done. To allow these government agencies to veto agreements entered into before these same agencies were in existence would have been expected facts.

We realize that a valuable timber has passed into private hands, but it is in compliance with the law as it existed.

Lewis Judson,
 1000 Judson St.

SAD ENDING CERTAIN

Inst. Churchill
 An appaser is ~~no~~ feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last.

NATIONAL WHIRLIGIG

Only Ike's Desires Stand Between Him and 2nd Term

By RAY TUCKER

WASHINGTON—As a result of his amazing recovery of health, only Dwight D. Eisenhower's personal desires now stand between him and a second term as president of the United States. That is the unanimous opinion of family and political friends closest to him.

Besides reporting on the merely physical aspects of Ike's condition, Dr. Paul Dudley White disposed of the more basic and serious objection to almost five more years of presidential activity.

These concerned the mental and physical "stress and strain" which the responsibilities, tensions and pressures impose upon the man responsible for the nation's immediate fortunes and future destiny in these troublous days.

Whenever Ike, as a layman, has discussed this intangible problem, he has asked himself and his friends whether (1) he could endure this battering without physical impairment, and (2) whether his physical condition would enable him to make right and responsible decisions on grave world and domestic issues.

It was, in short, a clash between desire and duty.

Heart Specialist's Verdict

Dr. White's answer was an unqualified "Yes." The heart specialist's comment on this specific and all-important question deserves repetition, not only as it affects Ike, but also less distinguished Americans. Discussing the "fundamental causes of arteriosclerosis of the coronary arteries themselves," he said:

"Some think that too much rich food is responsible, some think lack of exercise is responsible, some think that stress and strain are responsible."

"But some of us, and I personally, do not think that stress and strain are responsible, but it can be an aggravating factor, and that must be weighed in making any statement as I have made, and we have attempted to weigh the stress and strain of the job, which are, of course, considerable."

Here, Dr. White went to the core of the dilemma.

Ike's Temperament Helps

Since Ike does not eat "too rich food," and can easily regulate his exercise in accord with medical requirements and prescriptions, the "stress and strain" factor becomes determining save for Ike's own personal inclinations. And Dr. White eliminates that as an objection to a second term.

Moreover, contrary to public opinion, the presidency is not an "aman-killin' job" for a man of Ike's temperament, philosophy and metabolism.

He is utterly unlike Woodrow Wilson, Warren G. Harding and Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose deaths led to this belief, although even their records belie the theory.

Woodrow Wilson's Case

Wilson was an intense introvert, whose mind lived more strenuously and violently than his body. He was a visionary and dreamer, a man far ahead of his times, who could not reconcile his lofty ideals with political practicalities and limitations. His was a fierce and throbbing conflict within himself and with an avary world. And he lived for about three years after leaving the White House.

Harding was an indulgent and intemperate individual. He was not the stuff of which presidents should be made or tried. Mourning his loss of freedom for his convivial cronies, he told the late James W. Wadsworth, Jr., only

Only Feelings of Lobbyists Hurt By the Investigations

By JAMES MARLOW
 Associated Press News Analyst

WASHINGTON — In the past 102 years Congress has investigated lobbying seven times. The result: a lot of bad publicity for lobbyists but no law to control them. Now Congress seems ready to start an eighth investigation.

There is a law requiring lobbyists here to register with Congress and report on their spending. It did not result from an investigation. It was passed without much examination in 1946 when Congress was reorganizing itself.

There is nothing illegal or wrong about lobbying. Every individual or group has a right to try to get Congress to pass the kind of legislation it wants. But lobbying can cross over into the corrupt class by the way money is used to influence voting.

This is an election year and whether this new inquiry does a real job or shadow-boxes depends on:

(1) The willingness of the full Senate to make an all-out inquiry, an attitude which will be revealed in the authority the Senate gives its committee; and (2) whether the Democrats and Republicans on the committee let their investigation degenerate into a political fight.

The Senate is expected to create a special committee made up equally of Democrats and Republicans.

The first such investigation by Congress was in 1-54, when lobbying had become a national disgrace. The last was in 1950 when a House committee, also made up equally of Democrats and Republicans, got involved in intense partisanship.

The chairman of that committee, the late Rep. Frank Buchanan (D-Pa.), described lobbying at the end of the inquiry as a "billion-dollar industry."

A report by his committee disclosed that 132 corporations spent \$32,124,835 on "activities relating to attempts to influence legislation

Memphis Commercial Appeal

Force of habit, we suppose, is mainly responsible for the fact that nearly every one who has a cold refers to it as "bad." There are really no "good" colds, so far as we know, though the misery-producing ailment does seem to vary in intensity.

Since the cold is a common affliction, perhaps we call it "bad" in the effort to make it appear that there is something special involved in our cases. One thing is certain, however. The person who says "just" a bad cold is asking for further trouble that he rarely fails to get.

A Smile or Two

A renowned educator was entertaining a friend in his home for dinner. While they were waiting for the main course to be served, the guest asked his host, "Will you pass the nuts, professor?"

Replied the professor, absent-mindedly, "Yes, I suppose so, but I really should flunk them."

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A White House source relates that President Eisenhower some time ago introduced his grandson David to Vice-President Nixon.

"You know," the President told the 7-year-old, "he is Vice-President of the U.S."

Impressed by Nixon's title, young David's comment:

"Wow!"

HOW CAN WE DO IT?
 Sherman County Journal

How does a man in a closed car with a hose attached to the exhaust pipe enough to commit suicide without thinking of something that he'd ought to do?

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