

# THE DAILY TIDINGS EDITORIAL and FEATURE PAGE

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GEORGE MADDEN GREEN, Managing Editor

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## ASHLAND DAILY TIDINGS OUT OUR WAY

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By Williams

### Income Tax

Again we were disappointed! Repeatedly, The Daily Tidings in its study of the income tax situation has found only halfhearted arguments in favor of this measure.

Regardless of who is to blame, undoubtedly the state's business is in a condition whereby more money will be needed than will be derived from the present sources of revenue.

The ordinary business institution, in the same condition, would retrench, if that would furnish a remedy; procure more business and thus provide more income, or borrow money to tide it over the emergency.

While it makes interesting reading to a certain element to yell your head off about state cutting down expenses, The Daily Tidings cannot figure out where this will solve the problem confronting the state. The damage unquestionably is already done—both in appropriations and in the elimination of the necessary income. Thus, except for blood and thunder editorials, there seems to be no merit in this phase of the question at present, although it could be well applied in the future in some cases which have brought about the present situation.

The second possible remedy is equally as useless in the present emergency. The laws provide only a certain income, placing limitations upon increases which have built up a brick wall that cannot be surmounted by the state officials at present.

This would leave only the plan of borrowing money to tide the business over. The state has this opportunity, if you apply the same procedure as a business institution would take.

Yet, this plan must be supplemented with an explanatory paragraph. If warrants are issued, the state is in no better permanent condition than at present. The warrants must be paid and the increased income possible under the law would only make these warrants a continuously increasing sum for several years.

However, certain forces say there is a better way in which the state can meet the situation. That is the income tax method, which is proposed to the voters in the June 28th, special election.

Which is the better plan? Take their plan and pay income taxes, or issue warrants and pay interest?

As we stated in the opening paragraph, The Daily Tidings writer has discussed the income tax question with many who should know something about the situation confronting the state, has read the arguments of those favoring the income tax and made other investigations, with the result that only once in the endorsements—personal, organization or newspaper—have we discovered one who approved the income tax except with reservations. Of course, we eliminate the politicians who cannot be considered except as biased.

One says it is the only course, another says he favors it merely as an emergency—but we fear it will be more difficult to drop than to pick up—; a third says there is no better plan suggested—as if we should adopt it merely because nothing else is advocated; a fourth says its the lesser of two evils—have we only evils in Oregon?; a fifth says it is all right, but it plays favorites; a sixth—well on and on it goes, always with reservations and exceptions and excuses.

The Tidings knew that the state Grange favored the income tax and eagerly awaited its state convention, hoping its endorsement would be wholehearted and sound.

And this is what greeted the writer yesterday in the press dispatch of the speech of the state grange master; "Even with its faults—"

On and on it goes—exceptions, excuses, reservations, compromises!

The writer, like others who are open-minded, believes some plan must be evolved quickly to wipe out the state deficit, and is ready to sponsor any plan which will offer the desired financial relief, without entailing a compromise or accepting a makeshift.

### Luxuries Become Needs

The trend of automobile buyers to desire a fully equipped car is becoming more and more pronounced. What were only a few years ago regarded as luxurious accessories are today recognized by engineers as vital needs, and rightly so, due to changed traffic and road conditions.

The hottest town in the world is said to be Azizia, Tripoli. Little chance of redemption there.



### Try This One

- MOVIES**
1. What famous motion picture comedian once performed in an English dance hall?
  2. What motion picture actress is related to Mae Murray by marriage?
  3. What famous humorist-actor is returning to the screen this year?
  4. Who is married to (a) Joseph Schenck, (b) Jack Dempsey, (c) Samuel Goldwyn, (d) King Vidor, (e) Richard Arlen?
  5. What motion picture actress has been termed "the Duse of the screen?"
  6. What is a "still" picture?
  7. What two actresses produced their own pictures?
  8. Name at least three athletes who have appeared in pictures during the last two years.
  9. What actress is said to receive the largest number of fan letters?
  10. Who was the first well-known film comedian?

- ANSWERS**
1. Inventor of an incandescent gas burner.
  2. Mercury.
  3. When it is colorless and limp as water.
  4. Structural geology deals with form, arrangement and internal structure of rocks; dynamic geology with causes and processes of geological change.
  5. Constellation.

**SAP AND SALT**  
BY BERT MOSES

A woman is no stronger than her weakest "No".

Passing the hat generally indicates that the cause is weak.

Men with a finger or two cut off rarely seek a buzz-saw job.

In love affairs, the third party is a provoking as it is in politics.

There is this consolation: If you lose your mind, it is proof that you had one.

Just as truth seems to be getting a foothold, along comes a presidential campaign and sets it back where it started from.

- Hex Heck says: "I believe in encouraging every industry except the manufacture of coffins."
6. The science of interpretation and explanation.
  7. Geometry.
  8. Apparatus for determining the amount of nitrogen in any substance analyzed.
  9. Medicine.
  10. Hellum.

**TOM SIKS SAYS**

The British would have won without American aid, Marshal Douglas Haig, the British commander-in-chief said. It is not necessary to say that this remark was made the other day, and not back in 1918; Nobody thought so then—Baker Herald.

Lindbergh's mother has lived to see what every mother hopes will happen to her son. And after all it is the mothers of this nation who spur us on to greater deeds.—Roseburg News-Review.

This is the season when the collegian and high school product are looking for "credits." Knowledge, of course, comes secondary.—Hubbard Enterprise.

The north China outlaw is suing for peace. He was not so bad as he thought he was.—Rialto Evening Herald.

It used to be that the sound of a muffled report in the basement meant an explosion of coal gas, but in these days of HOME brew it's apt to indicate something a lot worse.—St. Helens Mist.

LONDON.—(UP)—The Warsaw correspondent of the Daily Express today says mass executions have been reported from all parts of Russia. One report said 20 persons have been shot at Vladivostok.

## TURNING THE PAGES BACK

### ASHLAND 10 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Roberts of Sunnyside, Washington, are visiting with Mrs. J. N. Dennis, Allison street.

H. Henninger and wife and J. Beauveau and wife of Oregon City are touring through this section of the state.

Miss Hilda Thompson has returned to her home at Applegate district after a short visit with friends and relatives in Valley town.

John P. Williams and wife and Miss Bell Richert of Shullsburg, Wisconsin were visitors Tuesday of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Simpson.

### ASHLAND 20 Years Ago

Miss Armada Kaiser has returned from her duties as principal of the Normal Training School department of the Sisters of the Holy Name at Seattle to spend the summer with her parents here.

Frank M. Stevins left for Washington Gulch, Montana, where he expects to engage in mining and prospecting for a while.

A. F. Polans and daughter left Ashland recently on a trip to Southern California and other points of interest.

Mrs. P. S. P. P. P. has returned from an extended visit to California.

D. R. Mills and wife are home from a trip to Portland.

### ASHLAND 30 Years Ago

Chas. Wagner, Roy Robley and Bertram Spencer of Ashland came in from Eugene Thursday where they have been attending the University of Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gross attended the Commencement exercises at St. Mary's academy at Jacksonville Friday evening, chaperoning a party from Ashland.

The California Press association passed through this village yesterday morning on the "overland" which came in from the north with a double header.

A. G. Rockefeller, one of the pioneer residents of Ashland will spend the summer prospecting.

### THE FORUM

Articles of timely interest are welcomed under this head. Communications must bear the signature of the author.

San Francisco, June 14, 1927  
Editor, Tidings,  
Ashland, Oregon.  
Dear Sir:

We have read with interest your editorial of May 27th on the subject of "Billboards along the Highways."

It is gratifying indeed to read the truth well expressed. You evidently appreciate the economics of the situation and realize that that which is worth while and serves a good purpose will prevail and that which falls of these qualifications will die a natural death. In this day and age when advertising plays such an important part in the prosperity of our country good advertising is truly worth while, while poor advertising must die in competition with that which gets results.

Very truly yours,  
FOSTER & KLEISER CO.,  
R. A. Edwards,  
Representative General Office.

Sam Koser, secretary of state, was the principal speaker Tuesday at the forum-luncheon of the Ashland Chamber of Commerce. A paragraph from the Ashland Daily Tidings says of his speech: Sam Koser talked on taxes, in a concise, direct, understandable manner.

We all know that Sam Koser can talk in the manner described by the Tidings, for Sam can use his head for something other than an ornament. But when our general secretary of state takes the subject of taxation at this stage of the game and discusses it as

described by the Tidings he intentionally forgets an important part of the subject and those incidents related to it. Koser didn't tell his Ashland audience about the notorious confidential "blue" blank, or snoper's blank as it is termed by many. He didn't give his audience an account of how that blank came into existence. Sam was a member of the State Tax commission which sanctioned it and authorized county assessors to return to their respective counties and use the blanks. He did not inform his audience of why, a few days later, the commission backed down on the blue blank, disclaimed it and left it to the assessors to do as they pleased. If he related those incidents in his talk on taxes the Tidings did not mention it.

Another thing related to taxes which Koser left untouched in his concise address on that subject was that of the recommendation of the California corporate tax law to the 1927 legislature by the special legislative tax investigation committee. He offered no explanation of why the committee's recommendation was ignored. He said not a word about the mass made by a state "official" who was named to draft a law after the California plan, but who instead concocted what the Oregon voter terms "a double barreled, back-action, rattlesnake" bill which was said to have been extremely vicious. Koser as a member of the state tax commission, doubtless had a direct interest in the matter, but he offered no explanation why another official or delegation was not named to draft the law in line with the recommendations of the special tax committee. He doubtless also failed to explain that the proposed income law comes as a direct result of the fact that the recommendations of the special tax investigation committee were ignored. All the incidents connected herewith are closely related to the tax situation and there is no good reason why a state official who is a member of the state tax commission should ignore them when addressing a public audience on the subject of taxation.

No, Koser didn't tell it all. He studiously avoids the scandal, as do other members of the state tax commission.

—Medford News.

"Hud Thank Bill"  
June 15, 1927

To the editor:  
One of the measures that will appear on the ballot at the special election June 28, is the referen-

dum submitting the so-called Property Assessment and Taxation Enforcement Bill to the vote of the people. The ballot numbers will be 320 Yes and 321 No.

A gross abuse of authority conferred by this law, which was known as House Bill 72 when it was before the Legislature, is responsible for its being referred to the people by petition. A law which subjects taxpayers to the oppression attempted under the bill should be repealed and a new law enacted that is properly safeguarded.

The law was intended by the legislature to give additional powers to the State Tax Commission; but the way it was administered aroused the indignation of taxpayers in every part of Oregon and because the Tax Commission relaxed first one part of the blank they authorized, and then another part, and finally put the whole thing up to the assessors, such confusion resulted that the law was thoroughly discredited in the minds of the public, and it is the opinion of the State Taxpayers Association, (The Greater Oregon Association) which brought the referendum, that nothing can be done under this bill that will not cause further resentment and misunderstanding. Sec. 5 of the law, which the State Tax Commission took to be authority for issuing the assessment blank, makes every county assessor practically a judicial officer, and gives him the power, making it his duty, to investigate under oath, to summon witnesses, to examine books and records, and to require taxpayers to give information under oath concerning their capital, funded or other debt, current assets and liabilities, value of property, earnings and operating expenses and all other information the assessor or Tax Commission may require.

By this means, and because such hearings could not be held in secret, the most intimate details of any one's affairs might easily become public property. All of a taxpayer's debts would have to be filed in detail, which is exceedingly distasteful, the size and scope of payrolls, salaries paid to employees, operating expenses of all kinds would be open to inspection of competitors and the curious, which can readily be seen would cause a lot of hard feeling and trouble if carried to any great extent in small communities.

People do not like to file a list of their debts in a public office, even if the law does say that the information is to be kept confidential. Most people in business and out have to strain their resources to borrow at times, and they certainly do not want to make a public record of what they owe and to whom they owe it.

Taxation is vital in Oregon, just as it is in other Western States. Our population is sparse and scattered, and we have the most urgent need for commercial, industrial and agricultural development, and under these circumstances taxation must be handled with high efficiency. The proper course, and the sensible course, it seems to the thoughtful citizen, is for Oregon to vote "No" on this referendum and reject the law at the polls June 28, and then for her citizens to join in working out a law that will accomplish what the Legislature intended, which was to give the assessor better facilities for making assessments, but with the new law safeguarded in such a way

that abuse like the issuance of this "blue tax blank" could not happen again.

The Greater Oregon Association, the State Taxpayers Association of Oregon, through its Secretary, L. B. Smith, who appears personally as the petitioner for this referendum on the ballot, has pledged itself to have the proper research and study made, and to get a hearing from all taxpayers of every class that are involved so that a new law can be presented for the consideration of the next Legislature that will iron out the difficulties and represent a sound solution of this problem.

L. B. SMITH, Sec'y.

### VALLEY VIEW NOTES

Edith Arnold was taken to the Sacred Heart hospital in Medford again, last Sunday and on Monday underwent a mastoid operation.

Unless there should be complications, a quick recovery is expected.

The voters of the Valley View district held a meeting at the school house last Tuesday evening to discuss the school unit subject, which comes up to be voted on at the next election.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lennox and son Keith, accompanied Mr. and Mrs. J. L. McCracken of Ukiah, Cal., on a trip to Portland over the last week-end.

They visited Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Lansing wife in Portland. Mrs. Lansing was formerly Miss Beth Lennox.

Mrs. J. F. Arnold and Mrs. May Harris spent last Tuesday in Medford, with Edith Arnold who is ill in the hospital there.

### HEALTH PERPETUAL ON FANNING ISLAND

SYDNEY, June 15.—(UP)—Doctors in search of fame and fortune are advised not to go to Fanning Island, the mid-Pacific station of the Pacific Cable Board line.

G. O. Whitelaw, an official of the cable board who recently returned to this city, declared there had been only one serious case of sickness among the island's small population in 25 years.

### DENTAL FURS OLYMPIA, WASH., June 16—

(UP)—An application for an injunction was filed in superior court here today, seeking to restrain Charles R. Maybury and the dental examination board from giving another examination to 12 applicants known as seven-year practitioners.

These applicants have taken two examinations allowed by the 1923 dental code, without passing, and are to be given a third one.

A temporary restraining order was issued by Judge Wilson made returnable June 22.

CHICAGO — Astronomers of Northwestern university are preparing to witness the total eclipse of the moon Wednesday morning. The eclipse will begin at 2:43 a. m. and end at 5:05 a. m. A total eclipse of the moon is a rarity even for astronomers.

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L. B. SMITH, Sec'y.

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