

NEW INCOME TAX BILL FOR OREGON

Graduated Tax Plan With No Property Offset; Sales Tax Considered.

Sales Tax Measure May Prove Popular—Income Tax Bill Breaks Schedule — Lobby Opposes Motor Bus Franchise—Prohibition to be Aided—Fishing Treaty Falls in Committee.

Salem, Or.—The most interesting week of the legislative session is now at hand. What with the telephone hearings, the highway bonding hearings, the truck regulation hearing and other matters it will be a case of "all hands on deck." And also during this, the fourth week of the session, will come the first formal recognition of Old Man Deficit, when Senator Ed W. Miller of Josephine county introduces a sales tax bill.

Bills have reached the places where members must vote one way or another, and such members as have a political eye on the future are becoming cautious. There are now too many bills in the hands of committees which must be smoked out if the session is to take action.

Wide Interest in Sales Tax.

No tax suggestion yet made is so likely to make the public take interest as the proposed sales tax. This measure is independent of the series of bills recommended by the property tax relief commission. The sales tax can be expected to stir up more people than the three proposed income tax bills already introduced. As no one has been paying attention to the deficit in the state finances, Senator Miller decided to bring forth his idea. The office of the state tax commission and the attorney-general's office have been working on the details for Senator Miller for a week. The main ideas of the bill have been drafted and by Tuesday the details should be completed.

The sales tax calls for a 1-mill tax on wholesalers; 2-mill tax on the business of retailer; 3 mills on amusements, and 5 mills on tobacco. An exemption of \$5000 is allowed, a sum considered sufficient to permit the little fellows to escape. The tax is so light that the merchants cannot pass it on to the consumer and for that reason Senator Miller believes that the bill should prove popular with everyone. Raw products are exempt and also personal services, such as barber shops and beauty parlors. It is estimated that the bill can raise \$1,000,000 a year, but it may raise more, or less. If the rates are not right, they can be revised later, after the results are seen. The proposed bill is based on the West Virginia law.

Painless Extraction is View.

The principal advantages for the bill, as checked off by Senator Miller, is that it will raise enough money to wipe out the deficit without placing an additional burden on property; the tax is so exceedingly small that it will not be felt by the consumer at all, and only slightly by the merchant, but in the aggregate it will be a reservoir of revenue.

Next is to come night sessions of the house of representatives, in order to speed up the work, according to prediction of Speaker Ralph Hamilton, made at the week-end adjournment Friday. The night sessions are to start, however, if and when the 26 house committees get into the real mood of reporting in the bills they still have in their possession.

"Speed up the work," is the urgent advice of the speaker. He declared himself in favor of no more adjournments, and working right up to Saturday nights hereafter. But, even thus, the prospect of completing the work within the 40 days and 40 nights, which is the officially authorized life of the session, is very doubtful, and one has to be mighty sanguine to expect or believe that this legislative session will complete its work on schedule.

When adjournment was taken until Monday, there had been offered a total of 467 bills. Of these 148 had been disposed of through final passage and indefinite postponement. With those that had failed to pass and had been withdrawn and tabled, there still are 320 bills in the hands of committees. The business in eight means that there must be longer daily sessions and perhaps the adoption of the cloture rule at an earlier period than usual.

Income Tax Bill Submitted.

Blasting the whole Carkin tax relief committee revenue legislation pro-

gram wide open, Senator Hall and Representative Norton joined in dumping an income tax bill in the house hopper, which covers both corporate and private incomes, carries high exemptions and a graduated rate of from 1 to 4 per cent, and no property offset. The Carkin committee now has a bill which provides an excise tax of 4 per cent on corporate incomes, with a personal property offset of 95 per cent. Hearings have been held on it, and it appears to have plain sailing in the house at least. The long-expected individual income bill put in its appearance. It carries a real property offset clause.

Now comes the Hall-Norton bill, driving right in between the two. It gives exemptions of \$1500 to the single taxpayer and \$2500 to the married taxpayer and the corporation. There is a dependent exemption of \$400.

The rates start with 1 per cent on the first \$1000 of taxable income, 2 per cent on the second, 3 per cent on \$3000, \$1000 and \$5000 and 5 per cent on all incomes above \$5000.

Lobby Against S. P. Bus Bill.

Two measures in which the Southern Pacific is deeply interested are being fought by an active lobby group. The forces mobilized are the state grants, Order of Railway Conductors, state council of fishermen, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, Farmers Union, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and State Federation of Labor.

They stamp as "vicious legislation" house bill 332 which provides for the public service commission to issue a certificate of necessity and convenience—otherwise a franchise—to motor carriers. The contention is made that such a franchise would, in effect, grant a complete monopoly of transportation on the highways of Oregon.

The second bill which has this lobby arrayed against it is house bill 376, regulating trucks and revising the fees for trucks and buses. The revised rates in the bill, it is claimed, have been reduced from approximately \$700 to approximately \$300.

Rates in the bus and truck bill can be amended in committee and possibly will, now that the organized labor lobby is camping on the trail of the Southern Pacific, but the franchise bill can only pass or be killed.

Would Reduce Telephone Rates.

Senator Jay Upton moved into the telephone rate fixing business with a bang Friday afternoon by introducing a bill providing rates and charges which do not exceed 75 per centum of those now imposed by said Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, and evidenced by its tariffs and schedules now on file with the public service commission of Oregon, are hereby declared to be just, reasonable and lawful.

Tacked onto that declaration is a command that the company shall, before July 1, 1929, file a new schedule of rates with the public service commission which shall in no case be in excess of 75 per centum of the present and existing rate.

Aid to Prohibition Enforcement

Tightening up the state prohibition laws is proposed in three bills introduced at the present session of the legislature. Two of these bills were introduced by the senate alcoholic committee, while the third bill was drafted by Senator Eddy. It was said that other bills having to do with the prohibition statutes were in the making and probably will be introduced before the close of the session.

Probably the most important of the three bills was the one by Senator Eddy providing a severe penalty for any person who is convicted of selling, bartering or giving away, under certain conditions, liquor to boys and girls under the age of 21 years. Under the provisions of the Eddy bill a person convicted of this crime would be subject to a penitentiary sentence of one to four years.

Joint conferences between the Oregon and Washington legislatures on fishing problems in the Columbia river over which both states have jurisdiction, came to utter failure in Olympia Saturday, and the entire program of law changes agreed upon a week ago was abandoned.

Fishing Agreement Falls.

Representative Ed Sims of Washington was the stumbling block of both legislative committees. Senator A. W. Norblad of Oregon, armed with full power to act for the joint committee of the Oregon legislature, submitted changes in the agreement reached last week, at the behest of the commercial fishermen and canners of the lower Columbia.

The agreement reached last week called for the season to be closed from May 23 to June 23. The fishermen proposed it should remain open

MAUPIN HI TIMES

SHEAR'S BRIDGE
(By Clarence Hunt)
Des Chutes, in French, means river of falls; thus did this river obtain a name. On this river we find Sherar's Bridge, about eight miles below Maupin, a historical point in Oregon history, and a valuable asset to the country in the future, if once a plant is established to utilize the power that nature has provided. The bridge has played a strong part in the settlement of the country because it has unified two sections of unsettled country.

By charging tollage, Mr. Sherar was enabled to build a hotel, four roads, a livery stable, and many more convenient installations, which easily made it the most popular, the best equipped, and the most modern inn of the country. The house was put together with wooden pegs instead of nails; the floors were hardwood, and the remainder of the lumber for the house shipped from California, the wood from the redwood tree being preferable. A promenade flower, trees, an orchard and many other things made it seem home like and restful to the travelers. Despite its size and capacity, it is said that at times many transients were turned away by lack of sufficient accommodations.

It was the center of industry. Then came the climax. Sheep and wool soon lost the owner a fortune. The canneries at The Dalles soon called fishing interest there, the railroad came up both sides of the river, the automobile took the place of the wagon, grain was hauled to other markets, the house, long since abandoned, could not make expenses. At present it is little more than a postoffice and railroad station. A new concrete bridge has been erected in the place of the older one, but the name of Sherar's Bridge will live in the history of Oregon.

Senior Class Play

The Senior class has sent for three plays. The best one is to be produced some time in the last part of March. By giving the play then instead of the last of the term the Senior class will have more time in the preparation of graduation. The other classes of the school will give plays at the end of the term.

Assemblies

Last Tuesday morning the students assembled to partake in the usual singing of school songs. They are learning "Hail to You Old High School" as a special number, which will be sung by a number of the girls on Washington's Birthday. A piano duet, "Under the Double Eagle," was played by Nova Hedin and Merle Snodgrass. Bessie Starr played a piano solo, "Rococco," for a special number Friday morning.

PROGRAM

A February Festival
The entertainment to be given by the grade pupils promises to rival the minstrel given by the High school. The program which follows, includes number in gay costumes, little Martha Washington, An Honest-Looking Farmer Country Eggs, a stately and dignified "February" receiving, the wished quests, Abraham Lincoln and many other special features; Our Flag—Gertrude Kirsch. Lincoln Acrostic—Third and Fourth grades.

until June 1, close from June 1 to June 15, and remain open to September 15. This was agreeable to everyone except Sims.

Sims was taken into an executive conference by the Washington legislators, but remained adamant, and inasmuch as his support would swing the lower house of the Washington legislature, the whole plan was abandoned.

"We believe that the attitude of Representative Sims is unfair, unjust, unreasonable and altogether wrong," said Norblad. "I shall go back and tell the Oregon legislature that the entire deal is scrapped and all laws will remain as they are at present, with nothing accomplished as a result of the conferences."

Leaders of both states were disappointed, as it was the first time since 1913 that both legislatures had agreed to a compact, and it was felt that it will be a long time before they will ever get together again.

WOULD TAKE OVER LOCAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

A man named O. E. Bays and wife are in Maupin today and are negotiating with Wm. Beckwith for the purchase of the local telephone exchange and switchboard. Mr. Bays says that if the deal goes through he intends to rebuild the entire line, fix up all phones and give Maupin service equal to any other place. It will be necessary to increase rates somewhat over those now prevailing, but that the service will justify the increase.

BOY SCOUTS WILL CELEBRATE ORGANIZATION OF ORDER

Patriotic Program and Inauguration of New Members to Take Place Next Wednesday

The Boy Scouts have been in existence in America for 19 years, and to fittingly celebrate the first initiation of scouts in America the local troop will hold an open patriotic meeting at Legion hall next Wednesday evening. The meeting will be free and all are invited to attend.

The program will consist of drills, patriotic songs, music and the initiation of several new members into the rank of "Tenderfoot." N. G. Hedin has consented to make an address on scout growth, aims and teachings of the order. The ladies quartette of Maupin will be on hand and will sing several patriotic songs. At this meeting the members will appear for the first time in their new scout uniforms. Those who are in sympathy with the scout movement as well as all others should attend, as the meeting will demonstrate just what the scouts are and show the personnel of the local troop.

Another Sheep Herder

Clarence Fargher and wife are rejoicing over the arrival at their home on Bakeoven of another son, the little fellow making his appearance yesterday morning. Clarence has been bothered somewhat in keeping herders in charge of the Fargher sheep bands, but with two lusty sons already on hand and a new one coming to the ranch, it will not be long before he will have sufficient family help to take care of all the sheep he cares to tend to the mountains. The new boy weighed 10 pounds and Clarence and his wife are feeling the best ever over his arrival. Dr. Elwood was in attendance.

DR. ELWOOD SOME STICKER

Experiences Fourteen Tie-ups While Making One Call

Dr. Elwood was called to one of his patients, Frank Richardson, at Pine Grove one day last week. The thermometer stood at 30 below zero, but that did not freeze our doctor. He loaded up the faithful Dodge and asayed the journey. The route is about 15 miles in length and in making the trip Dr. Elwood got stuck just 14 times, about an average of once each mile. Frank has been sick for some time but is now on the gain.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

Seck's Dalls Columbians Engaged and Good Time Assured

Valentine's Day comes today but the local Legion pot has continued the celebration over until Saturday, when the Legion hall will be the scene of a rousing and pleasing dance. Seck's Columbians of The Dalles will be on hand and the satisfaction that orchestra has been giving in the past is a guarantee that they will not fall down at the coming hop. The ladies of the Auxiliary will be on hand with a fine line of cats, all of which will tend to make the affair one of the most pleasant of the season.

On Annual Vacation

Clarence Ziegenhagen and family are at Bend, and will be coming week there visiting with Mrs. Ziegenhagen's parents. "Ziggy" is taking his annual vacation, it being the policy of the Standard Oil company not to allow its employees to lay off in the summer, during the busy season, rather giving them their time off in other seasons. K. W. McCafferty of The Dalles is in charge of the local station during "Ziggy's" absence.

H. E. FISCHER LAID IN FINAL RESTING PLACE MONDAY

Hugo E. Fischer Succumbs After Months of Suffering From Valvular Heart Trouble

Hugo Edward Fischer, a resident of East Maupin since 1913, passed away at his home on Saturday last, the cause of his death being heart disease. Funeral was held from the residence on Monday, with interment in the Kelly cemetery.

Hugo Fischer was one of those men to whom all were attracted. He was pleasant with all and possessed a store of information which he was glad to impart whenever called upon. He was born at Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin, July 23, 1871, where he lived until grown to man's estate, and where he, on October 1, 1894, was married to Miss Amy I. Hathaway. Later the Fischers moved to Dubuque, Iowa, where decedent engaged in civil and steam engineering. For many years he served as engineer in the U. S. river service. While on the Mississippi he was taken with the trouble which eventually carried him off. He left the river and moved to a farm near Dubuque. There he lived for several years, and in 1913 came to Maupin. Here he erected a residence and from that time on assisted his son, Laverne in and about the service station and garage. The past two years he interested himself in a sporting goods store, carrying a line of fishermen's supplies.

As stated above Mr. Fischer had suffered with heart trouble for the past 10 years. Last August he had a bad attack but seemingly overcame it. In November he was compelled to take to his bed, and from that time until death summoned him away grew worse. He met the inevitable with a courage and faith seldom heard of.

By the death of Hugo Edward Fischer Maupin and the whole state loses one of their most loved citizens. He was a true friend, a loving husband and father, a christian gentleman and possessed all the attributes which dominates the make up of men such as he. All Maupin mourns his taking off but realizes that the home above has gained a soul untrammelled by sin and worthy a place beside the great throne.

Surviving are the widow, a son, Laverne, and a granddaughter, little Verna Lee Fisher, besides a sister, Mrs. J. C. Ihde, living at Oyen, Alberta, Canada. Rev. W. H. Aldridge delivered the funeral sermon and in it he extolled the life on earth of deceased and spoke many words of comfort to the sorrowing relatives and friends. Interment was made in Kelly cemetery, the remains being followed to their last resting place by many who had known and loved the one who was laid away.

The hand of fate rests heavily on those who have fulfilled their part in the great scheme of the Creator. What they do on earth is as a map and those who are called early have but completed their mission on earth and while we mourn their passing, still we should view such matter with leniency and remember that death is the end of all, and that when the call comes we should be ready and willing to meet it. For Hugo Fischer we have but this to say: He was one of the Creator's best efforts and filled the niche prepared for him on earth to the best of his belief and ability.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to convey our heartfelt thanks to all those kind friends who, during his illness, ministered to our departed husband and father. Also to the friends and others who made their sympathy known by attending his last journey, and to all the ones who have expressed kind words since decedent, Hugo Edward Fischer, was laid away forever.
Mrs. Hugo E. Fischer,
Laverne Fischer.

Building Lambing Shed

Ernest Troutman is constructing a large lambing shed on his ranch, the structure to be 40x60 feet in size. Ernest will thereby shield his flocks from the elements and provide a protection to the new lambs.