

Eastern Clackamas News

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THE PROPOSED \$3 AUTO LICENSE FEE

The editorial in last week's News favoring the adoption of the \$3 automobile license fee has brought forth considerable comment, the large majority of the people who have expressed their opinion being in favor of the proposed reduction.

The News received a circular letter from the State Chamber of Commerce accompanied by a lot of data, which it was stated contained arguments for and against the proposed change in the law. However, we were unable to find any argument except that the present fee be continued.

The News is absolutely in favor of the continuation of the present road building program, but the point stressed last week was that under the present system the present tax was unjust and unfair to the average citizen and taxpayer, and we still maintain that this is the case.

The News is informed that the average automobile license fee paid in the state is \$24 per year. However, this average will be considerably raised in another year because the new Ford and Chevrolet cars are heavier by a few hundred pounds than the older models and naturally will take a higher rate, which will considerably raise the average. But taking the figure of \$24 as a basis for argument: The average car owner, using his car for business and pleasure, drives his car five thousand miles a year. Figuring that he uses an average of twenty gallons of gasoline to the mile, he would buy 250 gallons of gas, on which he now pays 3 cents per gallon, or \$7.50 per year, making a total of \$32.50 a year for the privilege of using his automobile.

We are told that in order to raise the same amount of money now being raised by these two methods, it would be necessary to put a tax of about 6 cents on gasoline, and if this is correct, the average car owner would have to pay 6 cents per year on 250 gallons of gas, or \$15 per year. These figures show that, after adding the proposed \$3 license fee, it would still cost the owner about \$12.50 per year less to operate his car than he is now paying.

These figures prove that the present tax system on operating automobiles is not an equitable one. Some are paying considerably more than they should pay, and many are paying less than they ought to pay.

But whether or not the initiative measure that is to be voted on this year solves the problem, the News is unable to say. The proposed law does not provide for any increase in the gasoline tax, and it is possible, however, that should this measure be adopted, the voters would then fail to authorize the increased tax on gasoline necessary to raise the money needed to continue the road building program. And if they failed to do this, it would necessitate the curtailment of the program, unless some other means of raising it was devised.

This is a question that should be given thought by every voter and the News will be glad to publish your views either for or against the proposed change in the law.

CALL IT "ESTACADA"

The News has been informed that the Community club agreed upon the pronunciation of the word "Estacada" some time ago, and arguments were presented by S. E. Wooster, H. C. Stephens and others to show that the town was named by a man named Kelly who in a letter stated that he had selected the name from Estacado, Texas, and that the word should be pronounced according to the Spanish rule of pronunciation.

However, another argument was presented. One believed that this being the United States of America, we should always use our own language instead of that of a foreign one. The people, he said, living on the Mexican border do not all, by any means, pronounce Mexican names as do the Spanish race. More people pronounce the Rio Grande river as it is spelled than pronounce it the way the Mexican do, which is "Reo Gron-da." The Mexicans say "Meheco" for "Mexico," but you never hear an American say "Meheco."

But it has been definitely decided that the second "a" in Estacada shall be pronounced as the a in "alms," so let's form the habit of pronouncing it that way. It really makes no difference, anyway, so long as everyone sounds the letters the same way.

The business men of the community who failed to attend the business men's credit association meeting on Tuesday night missed an entertaining and profitable session. The association needs the co-operation of every business man in this section. It will be to your own personal advantage to become a member and attend the future meetings.

According to New York dispatches Tammany objected to having the democrats hold their national convention in Detroit because that city is too wet. Well, if Tammany thinks it's too wet it must be.

Strange that the people in Oregon City and Portland know all about the development project that is being undertaken here, and local people have heard so many different stories they know less now than ever.

GOOD PROSPECTS IN 1928

The year 1928 seems to be starting off with good prospects. Secretary of Commerce Hoover, whose duty it is to keep his finger on the business pulse of the country, and who usually does a good job of it, declares that all signs for the coming year are good. Among other things Mr. Hoover declared:

"There is an ample supply of credits at low rates; the somewhat larger stocks of goods which were accumulated during the summer are being reduced; there is no consequential speculation in commodities; the crops have been abundant; wages are at a high level; we are recovering from some partial unemployment, especially in the automobile industry. There is peace in most sections of the labor world except bituminous coal; there is more peace in the international world than at any time since the war; the foreign world is recovering its economic strength and buying power; therefore, our foreign trade is steadily increasing."

After pointing out that the average price of non-agricultural goods has fallen in the past twelve months while the prices of agricultural products have risen, Mr. Hoover declares that "manufacture and distribution have by savings and diminished profits accommodated themselves to this system of decreasing profits without reduction in the level of wages and therefore in the national buying power," and adds that "the great extent to which industry has accommodated itself to lower prices by decreased costs makes for a sounder condition for the ensuing year."

It's a good idea still to stay on the "long" side so far as your Uncle Samuel is concerned.

Here's one sure way to stop bootlegging all over the country immediately. Just have everyone stop buying booze, and all bootleggers will go out of business, at once. We'll guarantee this system to work.

The worst thing that could happen to this country in 1928 is the election of Al Smith as president, says an exchange. And that can't happen.

Times haven't changed so much. Back in pioneer days, says an exchange, the pedestrian had to dodge the deadly rattler, also.

The way to get the most experience for the least money is to keep the neighbor's children for a day.

Twelve Years Ago in Estacada

From Estacada Progress, January 20, 1916

Thursday of last week it was discovered that the water supply for Estacada was at almost a standstill. There was but a slight pressure in the business district and parts of the town had no water at all. Investigation showed that a dam across the creek at the intake had been torn out and Marshal Ames reports that the cause was not due to a rise in the stream, ice or livestock. Investigation further showed that the city reservoir had been empty for two days and the water supply had been coming through a direct connected main.

Principal Guthrie announces that a teachers' institute will be held at the Estacada school building on the 29th, lasting all day.

Owing to lack of interest and co-operation among the students of the high school, especially those who were to have taken part in the annual play scheduled for next Friday night the play has been abandoned.

The Christian Endeavor meeting at George Sunday elected Rose Jansen, president; Otto Paulsen, vice president; Harold Joyner, secretary, and William Hins, treasurer.

Ed. Shearer of Garfield, popular poultry raiser, received by Monday's express two boxes of trophies awarded him at the recent Grays Harbor poultry association show.

S. W. Lawrence, owner of the Portland Laundry, was an Estacada visitor Tuesday, having spent the day

in Springwater where he is interested with his brothers George and Lou in farming and fruit raising.

It is reported that owing to an epidemic of scarlet fever and diphtheria, the schools at Eagle Creek, Doring and Gresham have been temporarily closed.

R. C. Deming of Garfield who is now in New York visiting his folks and attending to some business matters, writes that he is thoroughly investigating the eastern market conditions, especially as to the demand for Oregon apples, prunes, loganberries and small fruits. He reports a good demand for Oregon apples and no limit to the demand for prunes, but to date the loganberry has not met with popular approval among eastern consumers.

Don Newman of Tillamook is visiting with his aunt, Miss Maud Sturgeon.

Little 13-year old Tommy McKay, while playing at the Eagle Creek school last week, had the misfortune to break a leg. He was carried to the R. B. Gibson home and a doctor was called.

Ed. Douglass, who hauls cream, and Ralph Gibson, mail carrier, both of Eagle Creek, are having the pleasure of riding on a sleigh these cold days.

The Chevrolet dealer wishes to announce that Chevrolet is pronounced "Shev-ro-lay."

(Chevrolet cars had been on the market only a short time when this announcement was made.)

DO YOU KNOW—

That it takes better business to build a city?

That better business and prosperity go hand in hand?

That a city will grow only as its business concerns grow?

That a city is known by the reputation of its retail concerns?

That one live business will bring some business to a city?

That many live concerns will bring much business to a city?

That when all the business concerns of a city are alive and on the job, when they work together to hold their present trade, attract new trade and extend their trade territory, the increase in business for the home city will be surprising.

That the stronger their appeal of price, quality, variety and service, the stronger will be the results obtained.

That today is the day of keen business competition, a time when the automobile has cut down distance and time to such an extent that people will be attracted to a live city in ever increasing numbers.

That cities that are awake are reaching out into new fields and securing business they never had a chance at before.

Business worth having is worth

BORING STUDENT HONORED AT THE STATE COLLEGE

O. A. C., CORVALLIS, Jan. 19.—(Special).—Emil Anderson of Boring has been elected president of the Oregon state chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, national professional journalistic fraternity. Anderson is a senior in agriculture and a member of Alpha Gamma Rho, one of the 36 social fraternities on the campus.

Mrs. Gohring Improving

The latest report from Mrs. H. C. Gohring, who is recuperating at St. Vincent's hospital, Portland, after a serious operation, is now that she is getting along nicely, which will be good news to her many friends in this locality.

Mrs. Hughes Better

Mrs. J. R. Hughes has been ill for some time with an attack of laryngitis, but at this time is reported as being able to be up again.

Spends Week End Here

Morris Ely came from Portland to spend the week end with home folks, returning Sunday evening.

going after. If it is not gone after by this city, some other city will get it.—Selected.

Worthwhile Editorials

Thou Shalt Not Kill

"Thou shalt not kill" is one of the commandments. If the law says "Thou shalt kill," which would you say is right? The former is the command of God. The latter is the command of man. Governor Smith of New York evidently preferred the word of man to that of God, because it happens to be the law in the state in which he lives. All states do not agree with Governor Smith and the word of man in his state, yet he has worked himself up to the feeling that he is bound to sanction a killing because the word of man, or common law, in a small section of the United States says, "Thou shalt kill Ruth Snyder." It is true that the crime for which she and Gray were held was most fiendish and one is at a loss to account for the frame of mind that would prompt it. But, we are aware of the fact that many crimes are committed from insane jealousy, and is it less probable that this crime was committed through insane love and insane greed? Hanging or electrocuting does not seem to deter crime, as many criminals would rather die than spend the remaining days of their life in prison. However, Governor Smith is welcome to his job as the killer of a woman, justly in the eyes of man or not, could not but haunt him the rest of his days and stare him in the face as he passes over the brink. If killing is a good thing as punishment for killing, then it should be universal, not depending upon the temperament of this locality or that, and the "Thou shalt not kill" in the Bible erased.—Montavilla Times.

Who Does the Boosting?

William Allen White, editor of the Gazette at Emporia, Kansas has a way of talking out in meeting that fits the spot, and it might be well for the fraternity if more of us pencil pushers would cultivate nerve a little and then enforce the laws laid down rigidly.

White says: "The Gazette will be glad to be one newspaper, which will make this public notice: If the year book for any woman's club in this town is printed outside of Emporia, the notices of meetings of that club will be charged for at the regular advertising rate; no mention whatever will be made of that club while it is using that year book, and if that club has any civic enterprise in which it is interested, it can take its troubles to Topeka and get the Topeka papers to boost the enterprise and give it publicity; for the Gazette will not."

This rule might well be generally applied to churches and lodges—and in fact anyone who takes his business out of town and then expects the home paper to do the boosting.—Canby Herald.

New Calendar

The league of nations has asked the United States to help establish an international calendar. A committee of the league of nations is studying all proposals for reform of the calendar. Under one system proposed, the year would be divided into thirteen months of four weeks each, with an extra day called "year day" at the end of the year. In leap years "leap day" would be inserted. The extra month would be called Sol and would be inserted between June and July. If the fifteenth day of January fell on a Monday one year it would fall on a Monday every succeeding year. The same day of the week would correspond with the same day of the month every year.

Calendar reform might simplify bookkeeping. A new calendar might be better all around. But tradition is a mighty thing to overcome and it is likely a new calendar will not be adopted until quite a few of our present leap years have been written into history.—St. Helens Mist.

Guess it Will Be Dawes

There continues to be considerable newspaper discussion favorable to Mr. Hoover for the next republican candidate for president, with Mr. Dawes a mighty close second in popular opinion. The way we have it doped out is that Dawes will win in the end, as we believe he should, because of the attitude of silence for Hoover among those who really do things in a national convention. Our guess is that when Lowden is eliminated Dawes will take his strength from the middle west and the nomination will go to the man who put Europe on its financial feet.—Camas (Washington) Post.

Henry Ford says that he does not know whether he is a billionaire or not. In this the rest of us have it all over Henry. These doubts must be disturbing.—Molalla Pioneer.

OLD CHICKEN HOUSE REMOVED FROM VIEW

Much to the joy of many Estacada people, W. F. Cary had the old chicken house, which was located on the corner of Main and Second streets, razed one day last week. The old building had been standing on this corner for four years and did not add anything to the appearance of that most prominent corner.

Guests at Reagan Home

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Betts and children from Gladstone were guests at the Reagan home last Friday evening and attended the high school play. They returned Saturday and on Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Reagan drove to Gladstone with the children.

Guests at Kitching Home

Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Benefield and son of Portland were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kitching last Sunday.

Holy Book. While we do not question the earnestness nor the sincerity of the eminent statistician of Babson Park, we believe he is butting his head against a stone wall in his effort to obtain a unification of methods in religious teaching, and we think his conclusions are those of an economist when he says:

"As the Catholics, Protestants and Jews all use today the same multiplication table and study chemistry, physics and algebra from the same textbooks, so they all will unite in teaching about the greatest thing of all, namely, Spiritual Power. When the study of spiritual forces is put upon a scientific basis, as Pasteur put the study of medicine and Newton the study of physics, then the real truth will be discovered."—The Milwaukee Review.