

The Salem Sampler

By Hon. Ralph T. Moore

A news dispatch from Salem indicates that a State income tax collected in 1943 will reach twenty-one million dollars. This makes good my guess of twenty million and proves that the minority side of the House was right in its contention that we could well afford to cancel the major portion of the 1942 tax.

This indicates a 50 per cent reduction in the 1943 income tax—most welcome news to the hard-pressed taxpayer. It also indicates the strong position in the future for school funds. Coos County will benefit very materially, the amount of which has not yet been definitely determined.

It is gratifying to note that the program to spread the expense of education equitably among the entire population is off to a good start.

Forced lumber production for the war is rapidly depleting present virgin timber stands and turning the attention of the industry to problems of future supply.

The lumber industry has marched across the country in step with national development from Maine to Oregon leaving in its wake hundreds of "ghost" towns and deserted communities. Because of the immense stands on the Pacific Coast no attention was paid to reforestation. It was uneconomical to raise a second crop of timber on lands more valuable for other purposes. Only in certain areas of the South and on the Pacific Coast can conditions be found favorable to the growing of timber.

The climate along the Oregon Coast is probably the most favorable in the world for the rapid growing of timber. It is using good common sense to take full advantage of this priceless gift of Nature.

But tax structures will have to be revised if timber is to be grown as a crop. Obviously only the Government can now afford to grow timber because of the tax question. Trees grow so slowly that even a low rate of interest on the original investment will pile up a high stumpage at the time of harvest.

In keeping with the theory that timber is a crop, a severance tax has been proposed to solve the tax problems of both government and owner. The logs are taxed rather heavily when produced but this is the only tax paid during the cycle of growth except for a nominal tax on the land itself.

It is not impossible to perpetuate a major portion of our lumber industry if the necessary measures are taken. The transition period from the present tax system to a severance-tax would impose a rather heavy, but temporary, tax load on other forms of property. But the preservation of the lumber industry would be well worth the price. Coos county should watch the development of this severance-tax scheme and help it along whenever possible.

Both military and civil authorities are deeply concerned over prospective fire hazards in the forests this summer. The situation has very dangerous potentialities because of forced-up log production and shortage of man-power to cope with forest fires.

Best defense is extreme care on the part of the logging industry as well as those who hunt in or drive through our forest lands. A carelessly thrown match or cigarette butt could cause another disaster like the Bandon fire. Remember that the

State Fire Warden and his staff are working under heavy handicaps and cannot always give normal service. They must have your indirect help to do their job. Forest fires are enemies of all of us. Let us unite in a resolute stand against them. Report fires promptly.

Although the dead-line is more than a year away, those owing back taxes on property in the county should have their attention called to the fact that these taxes must be paid by August, 1944, to avoid penalty and interest.

A hardship may be imposed in isolated cases where the tax owed is substantial and must be budgeted. But it was felt that in the great majority of tax-delinquencies, 1935 and prior, the present unpaid balances were small enough to be easily liquidated on the present money market.

With heavy war tax levies in prospect, those owing back taxes should give immediate attention to their payment before the mounting tax load makes it impossible or impractical.

While rolling swiftly along in an air-conditioned compartment of a modern streamlined Pullman my first trip west came to mind.

Then there was the sticky black coal dust in the hot, stuffy sleepers. The trip was endured, not enjoyed.

Now one sits comfortably in your living room at home. If you're too hot you turn a gadget and a draft of cool air wafts gently over you. If you're too cold you twist a jigger like the knob on the switch of an electric stove and heat waves soon come welling up from registers beneath the windows. But don't go to bed and leave either gadget full on as I did. You'll either freeze or roast. There is yet no robot to do the traveler's thinking for him and the splendidly appointed modern Pullman is not foolproof. But it's mighty comfortable.

The reason for present efforts to discourage unnecessary civilian travel is readily discernible if one notes the crowds of uniformed men and their relatives in the big stations and on the trains.

There are young wives going to see their husbands at a distant point, timing their arrival with the beginning of the furlough so that precious hours together be not wasted.

There are wives with little children going to join husbands and fathers having semi-permanent assignments at posts within the U. S. They have cheerfully left comfortable homes for the hardships of the crowded areas in order to be with the man of the family for a few more weeks.

There are clear-eyed young service men spending most of their hard-earned furlough traveling in order to spend a couple of days with the folks at home.

This is the really essential civilian travel. Give it the right of way.

To me, one of the most amazing of athletic feats is the deft handling of food-laden trays by the colored waiters in the diner of a swiftly moving train.

Loose and easy in the movements and gifted with a superb sense of balance, they slip up and down the narrow aisle as easily as you would walk along a sidewalk, and as surely.

After studying their muscular movements I decided that the secret of their grace lay in the loose, flexible position of their legs as they

glided rather than walked along. So I resolved to improve my own clumsy, lurching progress down the aisle by taking a page out of their book.

A chance to test my theory came that night.

I was walking through the curtained Pullmans toward my compartment when I encountered two ladies headed in the opposite direction. Flexing my legs gracefully, as I fondly thought, I backed against the curtains with a slight bow to let them pass.

Alas, that bow was my undoing. For, instead of merely pushing my rear fender into the open space of the berth, it hid the hard unyielding arm of the seat and thereby projected me rather violently towards the lower berth opposite. Grabbing frantically to right myself I laid hold of some object that, though soft and squishy, served the purpose. But in an instant of stark horror I realized it was a fat human leg.

For one dreadful moment visions of a dowager-like old lady, who had space in that car, arose in my mind. I cringed before the inevitable shriek that would bring endless confusion and embarrassment. Instead, there came a real he-man oath in a deep bass voice. Imagine my relief, as I fled hastily from the scene.

4-H Club Summer School At O. S. C.

The 4-H Club Summer School held annually on the Oregon State College campus for outstanding 4-H members will be held this year as usual from June 2 to 11, according to word from H. C. Seymour, State 4-H Club Leader, received by the Coos county extension agents.

Last year, 94 4-H Club members attended from Coos county, 60 of them attending on scholarships provided by civic organizations, lodges and business firms.

Because of war conditions, local labor problems may decrease the size of the Coos county delegation. It is emphasized that where a labor problem exists, 4-H club members will be urged to assist rather than attend summer school. Should an acute labor shortage arise while summer school is in session, club members will be immediately returned home to take care of this important job.

To attend 4-H Club Summer School is the ambition of almost every 4-H club member. In order to be eligible, those attending summer school must be enrolled in some 4-H Club project and have a signed statement from the parents or club leader that the project work is up-to-date and will be complete by the end of the club year.

A typical program for a 4-H Club Summer School day starts with breakfast together in the living quarters, followed by morning classes in the various buildings on the Oregon State College campus. After lunch, there is a general assembly, a county meeting, and then planned recreation including craft classes, swimming, games, tennis, volleyball, baseball, and other competitive sports. Evening programs are planned for social recreation.

Permission has been granted by the Office of Defense Transportation for the use of school buses to take and return the county delegation to Corvallis.

To make satisfactory housing arrangements the state committee must know by May 15 the approximate number attending from each county. Organizations which are planning on giving a scholarship should notify the County Extension office by that date. Club members who are planning to attend should also register by that date. Mrs. Dorothy Bishop, county home demonstration agent, and James Bishop, assistant county agent, are in charge of 4-H Club work in Coos county.

Teacher School July 26 to 29

Two schools of two days each will be held for teachers in July. The buildings chosen subject to the approval of the school boards will be Valley View for July 26 and 27, and Bunker Hill, July 28 and 29. Although the schools are being scheduled primarily for teachers who have recently returned to the profession and rural teachers, they are open to all who will profit from same.

The instructors are being selected and will be announced soon. The newly adopted text books will be one of the subjects to be taken up. Some of the other phases to be covered will depend upon the requests as revealed in questionnaires which are being sent out to teachers.

The committee which met and formulated plans is as follows: president, Ethel Stastrom, Sunny Hill; vice-president, Wanda Volck, Laurel Lake; secretary, William Bromley, Millington; Elizabeth Fox, Delmar; Wayne Young, Bunker Hill; Martha E. Mulkey, county school superintendent.

The need was extremely great in

Sugar To Be Had For Home Canning

The War Price & Ration Board in Coquille has received word from their district office that sugar needed for home canning should be solicited for the entire canning season. This eliminates extra trips for the housewife in securing sugar for each variety of fruit in season and also avoids congestion at the Local Board.

Housewives must follow the required rules and regulations of the Office of Price Administration before sugar may be allotted to them. This is absolutely necessary. The amount of sugar allowed for Home Canning will be the same as the year before; one pound of sugar for every four (4) quarts of finished canned fruit. Also one pound of sugar is allowed per person per year for use in preparing preserves, jams, jellies, or fruit butters.

In order to secure canning sugar ask or write to the Local Board in Coquille for Form R-315, or Canning Sugar Application blank. If properly filled out, sugar will be allotted to you. When application for sugar to be used for home canning is submitted, the following additional information is required:

(a) Names of individuals in the family unit, and the serial number of his or her War Ration Book No. 1.

(b) Number of quarts of fruit of all kinds canned in the preceding calendar year.

(c) Number of quarts of canned fruit now in possession of the family unit or individual applying.

(d) Number of quarts of fruit which are to be canned, for the use of the family unit only, with the sugar for which this application is being made.

(e) Amount of this sugar to be used for preserves, jams, jellies, or fruit butters.

(f) Has application been made for any of the persons named above for sugar for home canning this year? If so, give total weight value of Certificate issued.

(g) If sugar has previously been allowed for home canning state number of quarts of each fruit canned with that sugar.

Few War Bonds Being Cashed

Postmasters, bankers and newspapers have received the following from the executive director of the War Savings Staff in Washington, Eugene W. Sloan, in regard to war bond sales and redemptions during the past two months:

I am writing to tell you about what I believe is a magnificent tribute to the patriotism of the American people.

As you know, there has been considerable speculation and talk concerning the effect that increased taxes might have on the sale and redemption of United States Savings Bonds. You will be delighted to know that during March, when the first tax installment fell due, bond sales were 6.4 per cent higher than in February, and more than 65 per cent ahead of March, 1942.

The story on redemptions is equally encouraging.

From May 1, 1941, when U. S. Savings Bonds (Series E, F and G) were first offered for sale, through March 31, 1943, redemptions have been less than 3 1/2 per cent of total sales. And redemption during March this year were only eight-seven and one-hundredths of one per cent of the total amount outstanding. That's a record that all Americans can well be proud of.

What it shows is that we as a Nation fully realize the privilege that is ours to do our part in helping to finance the tremendous costs of total war. It shows that as a people we understand the necessity not only for buying War Bonds but also for keeping them.

Many thanks for all you have done, and for your continuing efforts to make the War Savings Program successful.

Circuit Court Cases

May 6—Rex O. Tyrrell vs. Connie Tyrrell. Suit for divorce.

May 7—Jas. A. Morrison et al vs. George Seih et al. Suit to quiet title.

May 7—Thomas G. Sell vs. Frances A. Sell. Suit for divorce.

May 11—Jake Henry Hopfinger vs. Madge Lucille Hopfinger. Suit for divorce.

May 11—Mary M. Yates vs. Earl J. Yates. Suit for divorce.

That so many teachers were not able to get away for summer school because of family duties, gardening, etc., that the above arrangements were made. The school can in no way, however, take the place of a six weeks summer school and several will be in attendance at some of the state system of higher education schools.

Calling cards, 56 for \$1.00.

Saved From Death By The Bible

Mrs. John Bullack hands the Sentinel a copy of the Lebanon, Pennsylvania, News, which prints the letter of a Pennsylvania boy, somewhere in the battle zone, to his sister, in which he tells of his miraculous escape from death. We reprint a portion of that epistle:

In writing this letter to you, I don't know where to start. So many things have happened since last I wrote. Well, to begin with, I have escaped death at the hand of an enemy in a way so amazing I am still in a daze. You remember I told you when I knew I was going over, that I was going over armed with the Bible? The Bible is the reason I am still here and able to write this letter to all America.

Here is the story: My buddy and I were sent out on duty with our equipment in the work I told you before was our job. We had just received information, the most important in weeks. When we were discovered by the enemy, I gave my buddy the information we had collected, told him to beat it with it, and prepared myself to face the enemy. It was the first time I'd been faced with the necessity of pointing my gun at a man and blasting the life from his miserable body. I thought fast, when I said, "Lord, it's Your responsibility now." My body had not obeyed my order. As I reached for my carbine, a shot from one of the enemy struck me in the breast and blasted me down. Thinking I was dead, my pal jumped for me, grabbed my carbine as well as his own, stood astride my body, blasting away with both guns. He was blasted, too, his knees with three bullet wounds, but when he finished, there was not one of the enemy left. He was amazed when I rolled over and tried to get up. The force of that bullet had only stunned me. Dazedly, I wondered why. I pulled that little Bible out of my pocket and in utter muteness looked at the ugly hole in the cover. It had ripped through Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and on through the Pentateuch, on through the other books, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, and kept going. Where do you think it stopped? In the middle of Psalm 91, pointing like a finger at this verse: "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked." Sis, when I read that verse it raised me three feet off the ground. I did not know there was such a verse in the Bible. I'd been reading mostly in the New Testament. I read the rest of that chapter—the first part was ripped apart. In utter humility I said, "Thank you, precious God," and felt like a little boy that had escaped the mouth of an enemy of prey.

In 1942 thousands of carats of industrial diamonds—many times the weight of the famous Hope diamond—were employed to speed the grinding, cutting, and edging of millions of precision lenses for military purposes.

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Auto Liability Insurance Not Compulsory

Under new law to become effective June 10, 1943. The safety responsibility act requires that any driver involved in an accident that results in injury, death or property damage must within 10 days present proof of \$11,000 worth of financial responsibility or have his driver's license and car registration cancelled. At any time afterwards his license and registration will be revoked immediately if his insurance policy expired or his bond was cancelled.

The act applies whether or not the driver was at fault, exception being allowed only in the case of a car legally parked at the time of the accident. After two years, if the driver paid no damages and no suit was brought against him, he would be permitted to drive and own a car again.

Now the average citizen would rather play safe and place insurance on his or her car than to take a chance with FATE. With a law like the above in force there is not much choice. BUT IT IS NOT COMPULSORY. The cost for \$15,000 insurance is not high. From \$14.00 to \$16.25 per year—depending on the kind of Gas Ration Book you have.

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While it is not required by law that auto drivers have

Auto Liability Insurance

Under the provisions of the new state law, which becomes effective on June 10, it is highly desirable, from the autoist's point of view that his car be fully covered by Liability Insurance to make sure that, in case of an accident or collision, for which he may not be responsible, that the license of his car is not suspended, pending court action to determine where the fault lay.

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