

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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FOR TAX SIMPLIFICATION

Is there anyone today who does not feel the impact of the complicated tax system? Can there be anyone who does not feel the need for simplification?

Let these people take heart, for from Senator Walter F. George, Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, whose duty it is to investigate measures and methods for the simplification of taxes, comes this statement:

"If a statute is supplemented by complicated regulations or technical interpretations, little is accomplished by a simple law.

"However, I believe that the first step towards simplification which should be undertaken by the Committee is to make the income tax law more simple and understandable.

"I believe that emphasis should first be directed towards the income tax rather than the excess-profits tax, as I hope the excess-profits tax can be repealed immediately after the termination of the war, in order to encourage new ventures and stimulate private enterprise."

This is a very definite step in the right direction, and, more fortunately, it comes from a man thoroughly conversant with the nation's tax picture. Less preoccupation with the excess-profits laws which are draining industry's post-war reserves, and more attention to the tax quandary of the large majority of the nation would make this phase of the war program far easier to take.

Fragments of Fact and Fancy

The destruction of Naples by the German vandals is apparently the first step in the fulfilling of Hitler's threat that, if he went down, he would pull all Europe down with him. The process of destruction is so much easier than that of creation it does seem possible that Hitler may make good (or should we say make bad?) that prediction. His other prophecy, made when his hordes rolled over the frontiers of France, is also being completed but in a manner he failed to foresee. He appealed to his soldiers then to settle the future of the German people for the next thousand years. The doom of the German empire was sealed then but it has taken over three years of bloodshed to make apparent the fate in store for the "Fatherland."

Pictures of King Christian of Denmark appeared in the press recently when reports of Danish insurrection against German rule were making the headlines. We fancied that there was a resemblance between Christian and King George VI of England and investigation proved that the Danish king was first cousin to George V of Great Britain. Incidentally he was also first cousin to the last Czar of Russia and to George I, former king of Greece. Of course, it is well known that Christian is brother of that other courageous old king, Haakon of Norway.

Attempting to trace the ancestry of these two regal septuagenarians, we found they were the sons of Frederick VIII of Denmark and that their mother was the daughter of King Charles XV of Sweden and Norway. Beyond that the royal line was difficult to follow because there were so many King Fredericks and King Christians.

It makes one thankful that custom allows ordinary people to have individual names and not a numeral to an overworked name of a popular predecessor. As recent as the ascension of King George VI to the British throne, it was deemed advisable for him to continue his father's name rather than use that of Albert, even though he had been called "Bertie" by the royal family for over forty years.

Increasing restrictions on the use of gasoline here on the west coast may portend the outfitting of a vast armada of planes and ships to be sent to the heart of Japanese empire for a knockout blow. When such preparations are actually in progress ev-

Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., September 23—The Congress has not moved very rapidly during its first two weeks following the summer recess. Some of the new members are grumbling in the halls and corridors about the slowness with which we are getting under way, but the Congress of the United States is not a fast moving organization. Committee have been busy holding hearings and discussing legislation, and I believe we will soon see very busy legislative days.

Tuesday, the House passed an appropriation bill to take care of emergency maternity and infant care for wives of enlisted men in the armed forces. The higher grades of non-commissioned officers, grades 1, 2 and 3, and commissioned officers, were eliminated from the benefits of this appropriation. Previously, a The appropriation just passed by the House is for the fiscal year. Distribution of the benefits to those who are entitled to them is handled by the states. The money will be handled in Oregon by the Oregon State Board of Health, and I understand that Board has completed its arrangements for taking care of these cases out of the federal funds beginning October 1st.

The hardest problem, not only before Congress, but for the whole country, now, is the manpower shortage.

I heard Bernard Baruch made his report to the Senate Military Affairs Committee. It was an excellent summary. He suggested that a Production Priorities Committee be created for the entire West Coast, composed of representatives of the government agencies affected, with the War Production Board representative as chairman.

In making this suggestion, he points out that such a committee would be helpful in the future when greater emphasis is placed on fighting in the Pacific, and new demands will be made on the West Coast. Donald Nelson recently issued a directive in which he declared no new plants of any kind would be authorized on the West Coast. They all seem to be taking a swing at our part of the world, and I for one am beginning to wonder if it is a fair designation. Manpower is short all over the nation, and from my own observations when I was there this summer, I do not believe the difficulties on the West Coast are any greater than in many other parts of the country. Meanwhile, however, this clamor about the shortage of manpower on the West Coast

every last mother's son of us will be willing to forego all our rationed gallons of gas and count the sacrifice as nothing.

Needless to say, when that time comes there will be no hint of it given in the press and it is to be hoped that those who are bound to know about it will be as mum as the English were when a practice invasion across the Channel was staged recently.

The absence of German fighting craft on all fronts grows rather ominous. The Luftwaffe cannot all have been wiped out. Possibly the German airforce is being massed for one last suicidal bombing of Great Britain. On the other hand, all the fighting ships may have been called in for refitting with the new German rocket shell, which is proving more deadly in attacks on our fortresses.

When President Roosevelt accused the Congress of exceeding their powers recently and treading on executive preserves, it reminded us of a smoky old pot calling a bright, shining aluminum kettle black.

Today marks the end of September and tomorrow will be the first day of October. Did you ever apply the Latin you learned in school to these months and realize their names indicated they were the seventh and eighth months of the year and November and December, the ninth and tenth. The old Roman calendar from which our calendar today is derived had only ten months in the year, the last four being the same as they are today. The fifth and sixth months were once known as Quintilis and Sextilis. Various Roman dictators remade the calendar at will, adding or dropping months, changing names to honor caesars or to satisfy other whims.

The proposed, simplified calendar of thirteen months of twenty-eight days each is often advocated for our modern world. Each month would begin on Sunday and the extra day at the end of the year would be a holiday. It is doubtful if any change will ever be made. It would take a world-wide dictator to enforce the new way of counting days and even then the result would be confusion confounded.

effectively stalls our chances of having a plant for the production of alumina clay installed in Oregon or Washington. Representatives from the two states are meeting on this subject, and are cooperating with the local interests.

It is anticipated that the bill to prohibit the drafting of fathers. Introduced last spring by Senator Wheeler of Montana, will be up for debate in the Senate Tuesday. This bill, S. 763, has had a peculiar history. It was reported out by the Senate Committee July 2nd, with Separate Report No. 384. It has been on the calendar since that time. Since the recess, however, hearings have been held on the bill. Ordinarily, hearings are held before a committee makes its report, but that apparently was not the procedure in this case. At any rate, the bill comes before the Senate during this coming week, and indications are that it will not be passed by the Senate. The Army and the Navy and Selective Service officials have vigorously opposed any action by Congress that would prevent the drafting of fathers. If the Senate fails to pass the bill, then Chairman May of the House Military Affairs Committee has a bill ready to act upon, but has withheld action, pending the decision of the Senate. Obviously, if the Senate will not pass such a bill, there is no use taking the matter up in the House.

The milk problem, which has been critical in Oregon for some time, has finally become a national headache, and is No. 1 problem now before the administrative agencies. The simple facts of the milk problem, not only in Oregon but nationwide, are that the hold-the-line policy has been dumped almost entirely in the lap of the producer of milk; nothing or very little has been done to hold the line

TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, September 28, 1923)

The Sentinel is in receipt of telegrams from J. L. Smith announcing that Coos county won the first prize in the coast division at the State Fair at Salem this week, with 29 points over Tillamook. Although it did not win the sweepstakes, this county was given the highest score in the state on appearance and effectiveness of exhibits.

Another pioneer of Coos county passed to her reward when Mrs. Price Robison of Norway died at Bandon last Monday.

The present court and all the acting members of the budget committee at their sessions yesterday unani-

mously took a stand in favor of the county unit system of levying taxes for the support of schools in this county.

B. D. Wood came in from Eugene Wednesday to take the position of pharmacist in the Fuhrman Pharmacy. Max Rietman, who has been in the store all summer, expects to resume his studies at the dental college in Portland.

Sheriff E. P. Ellingsen returned Tuesday evening from a two weeks' trip to California. He took his motorcycle with him on the boat from Marshfield to San Pedro and came back on it.

L. H. Hazard is out again, though on his costs, which have mounted steadily, with the result that 25 per cent of the distributors of milk in Oregon have gone out of business in the last twelve months and numerous dairy herds have been sold or slaughtered. In holding the line, the dairyman has been required to take money out of his pocket and give it to somebody else.

In discussing the ceiling on apples before Fred Vinson this last week, I noticed the same type of thinking going on with reference to that. Apparently, the War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration are expecting the apple grower to take money out of his pocket to give to somebody else. This seems to be known as the "squeeze" policy—a term borrowed from the Canadians. It is becoming apparent that the "squeeze" in so far as milk is concerned has gone just about as far as it can go, and now something must be done and done quickly. I cannot, at this time, however, predict what that something will be.

weak, after being down with flu. As soon as he is recovered, Mrs. Hazard is going to Eugene to keep house for her two daughters, Misses Marjorie and Adrienne, and Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Webb will move into the Hazard home here for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Oddy have sold their place on the East Fork to Bill Oleson. Lloyd has a good job as bookkeeper in a veneer plant at Marshfield.

The concrete for the basement of J. W. Miller bungalow opposite the court house was poured yesterday. Finishing lumber has been received and John expects to move into the house shortly. There is not a handsomer home in the city.

Work has been at a standstill on the new brick building being built by A. N. Gould on Front street, for a week or so. Gould & Gould expect to move into it some time between the first and middle of November.



From where I sit...

by Joe Marsh

One of the best-liked farmers in these parts is Bert Childers! And he has the best way of beatin' the man shogage, too.

Come husking time, Bert invites all of his farmer neighbors over to have a glass of beer. When they ask politely "Where's the beer?" Bert points to a bucket-full of frosty bottles in the middle of the field.

"All you got to do," he says, "is work your way out to it."

Well, Bert's idea has caught on all over the countryside.

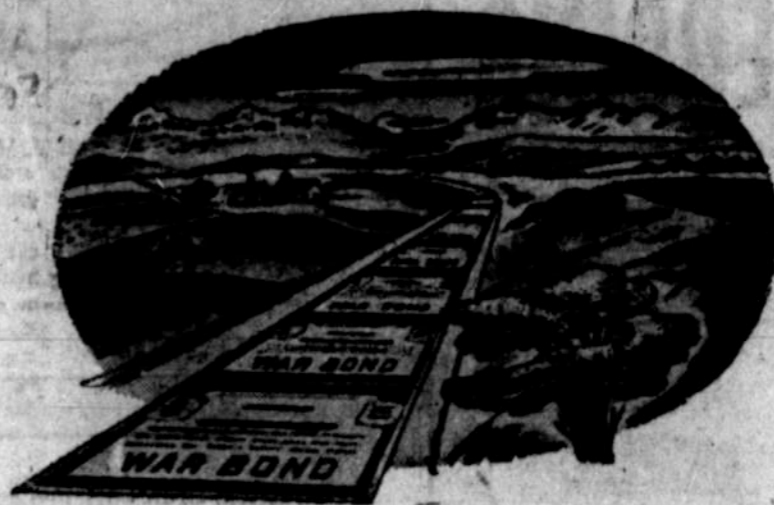
Folks are pitching in to help their neighbors harvest grain, and fruit, and vegetables—and are taking their reward in sociability when the job's done.

And from where I sit, that's a mighty healthy picture of American life—people working together to get in the food this country needs—and afterwards, sittin' around like good friends, over a moderate glass of wholesome beer. I'm for it!

Joe Marsh

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