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TAX LIMITATION

Many well-meaning people seem to be exerting a great deal of energy in looking for trouble from the tax limitation amendment, says the Oregon Tax Liberator. It continues: There seems to be great apprehension lest our educational institutions and the state highway fund will receive more than their share of state funds if assessed values throughout the state are suddenly increased. It will be remembered that funds for these purposes are on a millage basis. With an increased value of the state automatically comes an increased appropriation for these purposes. Since the tax limitation amendment places a limit on the total amount which can be levied by the state, a sudden increase in appropriations for educational institutions and roads would mean a corresponding decrease in available funds for other state purposes. As the assessed values throughout the state this year are extremely low, there seems to be considerable apprehension lest they will suddenly jump in the future and the entire fiscal machinery of the state be thrown out of gear.

We cannot understand just the reason for all this worry and commotion. In two ways we are safeguarded from the dire results which are forecasted. In the first place the millage laws could be repealed or amended by the legislature if it was so disposed. The second safeguard is the Bingham law, which was passed in 1915 by the legislature. This law limits the increase in funds derived from millage tax to six per cent over the larger of the two preceding years, regardless of how rapidly assessed values may increase. This law was not repealed by the adoption of the tax limitation amendment and still stands upon our statute books. It reads as follows:

"Except as herein otherwise provided, all statutory rates making provisions for the revenues of the state and for state departments or institutions, counties, cities, towns, schools, roads, and for all other purposes, are hereby so reduced as to prohibit the levying of a greater amount of revenue on the assessed value of the year 1915, than the larger amount levied on the assessed value of either the year 1913 or of the year 1914, plus six per cent. For each year after 1915, all such tax rates shall be so limited as not to levy a greater amount of revenue than the larger amount levied in either of the two years immediately preceding, plus six per cent."

Opposition to tax limitation seems to die hard, but its enemies might just as well make up their minds that it is here to stay. The Tax Liberator wishes to reiterate its prediction that no real embarrassment or confusion will result from its adoption and that it will prove a real blessing to the people of the state.

IN OREGON FOR OREGON

Five hundred and thirty-one thousand five hundred dollars of the Workmen's Compensation fund is invested in municipal and school bonds in Oregon, says the Oregon Journal editorially.

It is more than half a million dollars. It draws for the compensation fund an interest of five and six-tenths per cent. Thus, the Oregon Workmen's Compensation law is building school houses in the state. It is paying streets, building water works, digging sewers and rendering other useful service to Oregon cities. It is working in Oregon for Oregon.

In 1912 the premiums sent out of Oregon for insurance of Oregon workers against industrial accidents totaled \$683,141. The casualty companies paid back in Oregon losses \$414,326. It left the companies a balance for commissions to agents, big salaries for officials, and profits for the stockholders totaling \$268,814. Of the losses paid injured workmen, about one-half went for attorney fees and court costs. On that basis, the casualty companies and lawyers got over \$475,000 of the \$683,141 casualty premiums sent out of Oregon in 1912, while the maimed workers and their widows and orphans got less than \$200,000. It

was a splendidly remunerative system for everybody but the workers. The casualty premiums for 1912 were \$683,141, and for 1911, \$514,952. In the two years the total sent out of the state was \$1,198,139 and the amount that came back in losses paid for the two years was \$497,249. The sum retained by the casualty companies was \$500,893.

Out of \$1,198,139 sent out of the state in the two years, the amount received by workers and their widows and orphans is estimated at less than \$250,000. The princely profits the casualty companies were garnering were cut off by the Oregon Workmen's Compensation law.

The money they were gathering in premiums sent out of the state is now loaned in Oregon to school districts and cities for building school houses and other development purposes. Except for a small expense for administering the law, every cent of revenue for the compensation fund goes to injured workers or their widows and orphans.

The termination of the flow of the stream of gold that went in hundreds of thousands of dollars out of Oregon for the enrichment of eastern casualty companies is one reason why there is proposal to make changes in the compensation act at the coming session of the legislature. To mutilate that law would be a crime against the workers of Oregon.

"SHARP PRACTICE"

"Sharp practice"—using your friends to further your schemes for self-aggrandizement—may get you a few dollars, but it won't bring happiness and self respect, says an exchange.

Life is a torment to the man who tells his friendship on the block or avarice and the torture cannot be soothed by gold. Wealth without happiness—who'd have it? Its possession is a curse, not a blessing.

A clear conscience cannot be measured by dollars and cents. Lots of men if they had obeyed the dictates of their conscience before it became "altered" by "sharp practices," would not have so much money as they have now, but they would have some real happiness. You cannot take your money with you when you die. You may make a roll in dubious ways, but here can be no enjoyment in it. For gold you have gall and wormwood. Leave the tainted dollar alone.

It is gratifying to learn that Coquille is soon to have another mill in operation. The resumption of this mill is due to the transportation advantages afforded by the railroad. Lack of transportation is the drawback on the lower river right now. It is safe to say that if sufficient vessels were available, or if we had all connection, there would be many more mills and box factories in operation.

Port Orford is going after that naval base proposition in earnest and Bandon would certainly like to see its neighbor to the south get it. Sentiment is in favor of using local prestige wherever found to be of probable value in helping Port Orford gain the recognition it deserves.

It is beginning to look very much as if Bandon is on the eve of a new era of development. At any rate there are so many tangible prospects for big things coming up that some of them are bound to materialize. And here's all pretty big things, too, any one of which could help considerably.

Don't grow weary waiting! It's only a little while till the kind thoughts you have sent out and good deeds you have done will begin to bear fruit. Just send them out faster than ever. The crop is sure.—Max.

We sleep, but the loom of life never stops; and the pattern which was weaving when the sun went down is weaving when it comes up tomorrow.—Becher.

Alabama has a population of more than 1,000,000 but the total vote cast in the state last November was only 126,440. It looks as if some of the negroes didn't vote.

The army and Navy Gazette praises Secretary Baker as the best ever. At this rate we shall look for a eulogy of Josephus Daniels in about 457 years.

The highest compact we can make with our fellow is Let there be truth between us two forevermore.—Emerson.

Secretary Daniels says that the American navy must be increased. Very likely he has heard rumors to the effect that the world is at war.

It is to the credit of the Russians that although they have failed to rescue the Roumanians, the latter have had a friend to retreat with.

By the time that the many investigations contemplated are finished we'll know more about the high cost of Congress.

Everything comes to the strenuous chap who goes after the good things that the other fellow is waiting for.

They who bring sunshine to the hearts of others cannot keep it from themselves.—Barrie.

The hard part is not to work for success, but to wait for it to ripen.

THE HOUSEWIFE'S SOLILOQUY

One day I quoted glibly, "I have the soul of a servant"; that was after a week's absorption in house-cleaning. Then I paused and thought: "I have not the soul of a servant, in the sense in which Shaw meant the word to be understood, or I should not have used the quotation." He uses the word servant in its definition of one in a state of subjection or bondage to the will or command of another. Therefore, one who can be made to do the menial, or mean, tasks of the household.

For so many ages the menial tasks have been done by those "in a state of bondage or subjection" that we have come to think of such tasks as symbolic of bondage; hence that they are drudgery and not worthy to be given attention or time by any but the unambitious and ignorant, or those who have had no opportunity for better things.

When one gives the word servant its other definition, "One who serves" all idea of bondage may be removed and the so-called lowly tasks may be done without the sense of drudgery. A physician sterilizes his instruments that he may get them in the best possible condition to aid him in being of service to humanity. He does not feel that he is doing the menial task of dishwashing and that he is not being given an opportunity for the best expression of his talents, if he does not employ a maid to do the sterilizing. So a woman may wash dishes, or do any other homely service and lose not one iota of her freedom, if she knows that the washing of dishes, or whatever the task may be, is not the end, but the means of service. One may reach the point where she may do so disagreeable a task as to black the kitchen range with a feeling of an artist; and often with far more artistic results than embroidering of roses on a pillow cover.

Work that is too great a physical strain, or work that becomes monotonous thru repetition is drudgery. This is often the case with the work of women, perhaps, especially those who live on farms. One could not black ranges day after day and feel joy in the work, because the blackening of ranges would be the end of service, and the imagination could not be released to see the work as only a means of getting one's tools in the best possible condition to prepare that food best adapted to increase the physical and mental activity of the whole family. If an artist were to paint picture after picture, without pause for rest and new inspiration, that would be as much drudgery as any menial task. Work done with the hands is just as important as any other. Clever fingers imply clever brains.

No form of service is drudgery, if the one who serves is free. All forms of service, mental or physical, are drudgery, if the one who serves is "in a state of bondage." Some one has said, "Spirituality is seeing God in common things and showing God in common tasks."

This is my inspiration from my week of housecleaning.—A. B. C., in "American Cookery."

INTROSPECTION

Life is a bit of arithmetic. Figure it out as you go. Add all the good that you've done so far. You can do it quickly, young Loch-invar. It won't take you long, and so, Adding it up, in a mood of fun, You get the sum of the good you've done! Add up the bad. If it takes some while. Keep right at it, early and late. Maybe you'll find that the column is long. Summon a smile for your every wrong. Put 'em all down on the slate. Then strike a balance, young Loch-invar. And see what kind of a man you are!

DOES YOUR BEAU KNOW YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER?

Girls, beware of the young man who does not want to see your parents. He is not true blue. Beware of the fellow who can't look your father or your mother in the eye squarely. He is a sneak—a dangerous fellow. He may not demonstrate the fact at once, but it will come out sooner or later. The young man who honestly loves you will be anxious to meet your parents. He will desire to see them often. He will have the ambition to please them and prove to them by better acquaintance and association that he is all right. He will strive to have them investigate his life and record. He will want them to know his character and reputation, for he is confident that the better he is known the better they'll think of him.

Girls, when your mothers tell you to beware of a certain young chap, take her advice. Go slow. Obey her. Mother's intuition tells her many things. It is almost infallible, so far as judging the boys is concerned. Mother has your future welfare at heart. Take a tip from mother. You'll find it's a winner.—International News Service.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Laird have moved from the Mrs. Fannie Dyer residence on First street to the Hoyt bungalow, formerly occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Sullivan. Mrs. Dyer expects to be back in a short time to stay.

OREGON NEWS LETTER

Pacific Coast Manufacturer

ROGUE INDUSTRY TO BE RAIDED

A large part of the time of the Oregon legislature will be taken up enacting fish and game laws for would-be sportsmen. This session, however, the situation takes a more serious turn as legislation proposed threatens to entirely wipe out the commercial fishing industry on the Rogue river.

Through activities of Southern Oregon "sportsmen" this has been done once before and had to be undone. The "people" voted to close the Rogue river to commercial fishing and after full trial the legislature restored the industry. Properties worth half a million were rendered worthless and the river was so clogged with dead fish that dwellers on its banks left their homes and hundreds of men were thrown out of work. The Rogue river fishing industry is already greatly handicapped as compared with the same industry elsewhere, by regulations designed to favor the "sportsmen" in upper Rogue river valley, to-wit: No traps or fish-wheels, a dead line near mouth of river, only half a seining season, and very stringent laws governing set nets.

The maintenance of hatcheries by the United States government, by the State of Oregon, and the Macleay Estate company, all operating different hatcheries, insure the supply of fish. Further regulation would result in destruction of the industry from a commercial standpoint. The community is dependent on this industry which has been carried on for over 40 years. The entire run of steel head salmon on Rogue river (and no other river) is already reserved for sportsmen.

The idea of ruining this industry throwing hundreds of men out of employment and confiscating a large investment is so preposterous that one cannot understand how it was even thought of, let alone proposed. Oregon has few enough factories as it is and capital is slow to invest. To close an industry employing hundreds of laboring men for the pleasure of a few "sportsmen" who fish half a dozen times a year would be a disgrace to the state.

GASOLINE TAX PROPOSED

An Oregon freak regulatory law provides that gasoline sold in this state must be of 60 degrees gravity at 60 degrees temperature. The effect of this law was to put Oregon in a special class requiring gasoline a trifle different and cost a cent a gallon higher. The gasoline sold in Oregon gives no better service than that sold in other states though it costs a little more to make.

It is estimated this freak law put over by some reform politician to make the people think he hated the Standard Oil Co., costs the dear people \$200,000 a year.

The law is now to be repealed after costing the people about \$2,000,000; and the \$200,000 a year put in the road fund by means of a law taxing gasoline one cent a gallon.

Worth Attention of Women
When you feel too tired to work, wake up weary, have backache or pains in sides, when you suffer rheumatic twinges you may be sure the kidneys are disordered. Fay Sheldburg, All. Mo., writes: "I had kidney trouble two years. Nothing did me any good until I got Foley Kidney pills. Two 50c boxes cured me." Sold everywhere.

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