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VOLUME 43*

ATHENA, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, NOVEMBER 21, 1930

NUMBER 47

NORBLAD TABLES SPECIAL SESSION

Decision Follows Study Of Tax Structure—Public Sentiment a Factor.

Portland.—A Salem special to the Morning Oregonian says there will be no special session of the Oregon legislature for the purpose of clarifying the tax situation or for the consideration of other legislation, according to announcements made here by Governor Norblad.

Three outstanding reasons given by Governor Norblad for refusing to call the special session were:

"The question would arise as to the membership legally constituting a special session.

"The danger of a referendum as to any special session legislation, leaving the possibility of nothing being accomplished.

"A special session limited as it is in time could not give that careful thought and consideration to the problems before it that a regular session could give with more time for deliberation."

The governor made it plain that public sentiment was opposed to the special session for the reason that any necessary tax legislation can be enacted at the regular session which convenes early in January. He declared that one of the first acts of the 1931 legislature should be to refund the money paid to the state under the unconstitutional intangibles tax law.

"Ever since the decision of the supreme court invalidating the intangibles tax act was handed down, I have given careful thought and study to the necessity for calling a special session of the legislature," read a statement issued by Governor Norblad. "During that time I have examined carefully the tax structure, including all estimates of receipts from all sources during the biennium 1929 and 1930.

"The receipts in many instances far exceed the amount of estimated revenue. For instance, the estimate of receipts for the biennium 1929 and 1930 of inheritance tax was \$1,100,000. The actual receipts up to this time exceed \$2,000,000. The estimate in the 1930 tax levy of receipts from the intangibles and excise tax was \$900,000, yet the receipts were more than \$1,600,000.

"A comparison of the estimated receipts with actual receipts in many other instances, such as the corporation department, insurance department and other self-sustaining state departments shows a considerable increase over the estimate. There are many other figures which I could quote, but it is unnecessary to do so. Suffice it to say that such a study of figures convinces me that the tax commission can reduce the general property tax by a substantial amount for next year without additional legislation, and under existing laws.

"The recently enacted income tax law reasonably can be expected, together with the excise tax, to produce sufficient revenue to offset the loss of the intangibles tax. The receipts from the latter tax have been excluded from my calculations. The law was declared to be invalid and I have believed from the first that the honor of the taxpayers demands that this money be returned unless a valid law were passed wherein and whereby, with proper exemptions, the money received under the act legally could be applied to the burden of government.

"My study convinces me that only a special session legally could appropriate to state purposes the money actually collected under the intangibles law and now in the hands of the state treasurer. However, I sense the opinion of the people. They are opposed to a special session, and therefore the intangibles tax money should be returned immediately as one of the first acts of the next regular session of the legislature beginning in January. To do otherwise would cause the people of this state to lose confidence in their public officials and in their form of government."

Death of Mrs. Al Sigmon At Walla Walla Friday

Mrs. Retta Mabel Sigmon, wife of Al Sigmon, died last Friday at a Walla Walla hospital shortly after a surgical operation had been made in the hope that her health would be restored.

Mrs. Sigmon is remembered in Athena, where she and her husband resided for some time prior to removing to Walla Walla. She is survived by her husband and one son, Merritt Thompson of Spokane.

Funeral services were held Sunday at Walla Walla. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Russell, Mrs. Burden and Art Jensen went to Walla Walla to attend the funeral.

Wauna Benefit

The Wauna group of Camp Fire girls will give a benefit bridge party Saturday afternoon, November 29. Tickets will be on sale by members of the group for the nominal sum of thirty-five cents or reservations may be made by calling Miss Mary Berlin. A pleasant afternoon is promised by the girls and it is hoped that a keen interest will be shown as the fund will be used in a worthy cause. The place of the party will be announced in next week's Press.

Schools Visited by Nurse

Sixteen rural schools were visited during the month and the pupils given the routine examination. Four of these were mountain schools and were reached with difficulty. One of the pupil nurses from St. Anthony's hospital who is interested in entering public health work accompanied Miss Samson to two of these schools. An 11-year old boy was sent to the Shriners' Hospital for crippled children, Portland.

Turkey Shoots

The Helix Rod and Gun club is giving its annual turkey shoot on the Helix shooting grounds today, beginning at 9 a. m. A free lunch will be served at noon. The Pendleton club will hold its turkey shoot Sunday at Collins park, beginning at 10 a. m., with lunch at noon.

Helix School Play

Griswold High school of Helix, presenting its annual play Friday evening when a very good presentation of "When a Feller Needs a Friend" was given from the school auditorium stage.

"The Goose Hangs High" Cleverly Presented by the Athena High School Cast

There have been many good plays given at the auditorium by Athena high school talent in the past, but it is doubtful if any surpassed the presentation of the school play, "The Goose Hangs High," Friday evening, under direction of Superintendent E. F. Bloom.

The cast fit the play, and the play seemed to fit the cast, perfectly. The plot was strong in dramatic possibilities without being too heavy for smooth delineation and very acceptable acting of the parts assigned the members of the amateur cast. A pleasing feature of the evening's entertainment was the numbers given by the local orchestra, the singing of the glee club, direction of Mrs. Bloom, and a saxophone solo by Mr. Tilley, between acts. These extras were greatly appreciated by the audience and were warmly and unstintedly endorsed.

To Stafford Hansell and Arleen Myrick, as Mr. and Mrs. Ingals was given the task of characterizing the principal roles, and they gave a fine conception of their parts.

Marjorie Montague as Julia Murdoch, and Marjorie Douglas (Mrs. Bradley) both did fine in coming to the rescue of the Ingals' family in their financial crisis; the former with her animated advice and the latter with the contents of her purse.

Mildred Hansell in the role of Lois Ingals, gave a fine portrayal of a college girl filled with ultra modernistic ideas, who, when confronted with duty to her parents, unselfishly gave up her school work and sorority pleasures.

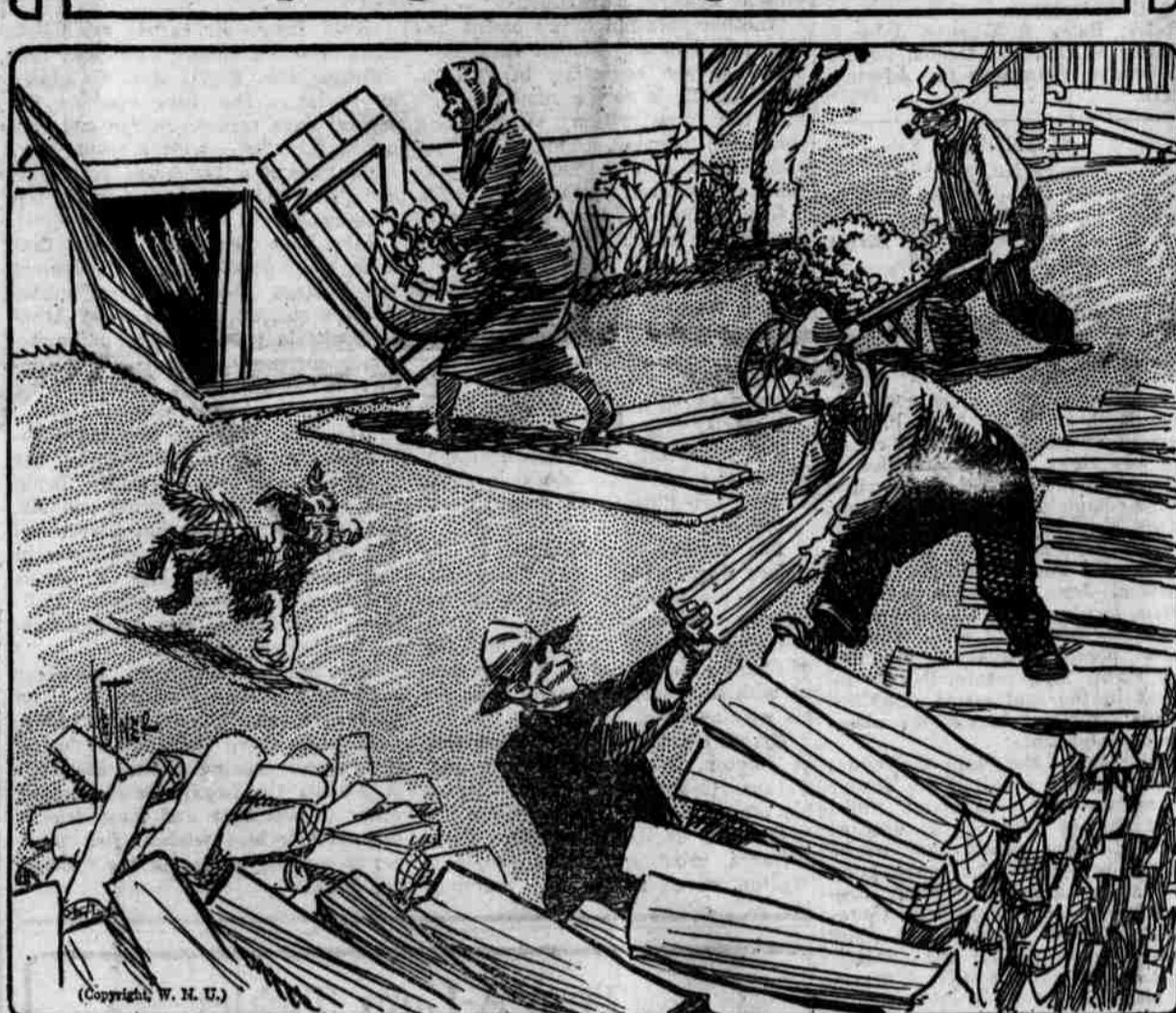
Fred Singer was splendid as Bradley Ingals, son and college boy. With his fine stage presence and in perfect voice, this lad was at his best in the smooth, clean comedy link of the play.

And so was Roland Wilson (Hugh Ingals) and Betty Eager (Dagmar Carroll) very acceptable in their parts, which carried them through juvenile lovers' trials and tribulations to a happy ending.

Minor parts were well taken by Myrtle Campbell, who played Rhoda; Glenn McCullough as Leo Day; Emory Rogers (Ronald Murdoch); Garth Pinkerton (Clem) and Arthur Crowley, Kimberly.

Favorable comment is heard over the reduction of admission price from 50 cents as formerly charged at school plays, to the popular price of 35 cents for adults, and 25 cents for children. At these reduced prices the play grossed \$72.95.

Preparing for the Big Offensive



Early Winter in Evidence Throughout Northwest

Early winter descended over the Pacific Northwest, beginning early Saturday morning when a general snow storm prevailed, in some sections with blizzard propensity. A light snowfall during a blizzard from the Southeast Saturday morning was all that prevented road blockades in the Athena district. Highway traffic continued with but slight interruption during the day and the temperature barely reached the freezing point.

The early snowfall in the Blue Mountains, where close to two feet covers the summit at this time, presages a deep snow for the higher plateaus and ridges this winter.

Medford reported eighteen inches of snow in the Siskiyou mountains. A raging blizzard blocked the Pacific highway for a time.

The snow blanket covered most of the Inland Empire in eastern Washington and was two inches deep at Spokane. In the Puget Sound region the snow changed to rain with ascending temperatures. A near blizzard struck La Grande, and snow covered the streets at Klamath Falls to a depth of three inches.

By-Laws Adopted At Meeting of Athletic Association

At a meeting of the recently organized Athena Athletic Association Tuesday evening by-laws were adopted, and the formation of a six-team league was considered.

Milton and Weston were represented by delegates at the meeting. The two towns are anxious to be represented in the proposed league. Other towns were not represented and another meeting will be held in Athena next Tuesday evening, when a full representation is expected and at that time a playing schedule will be formulated.

It is proposed that a six-team league be organized, with each team scheduled to play 12 games.

New suits have been ordered for the Athena quintet, which is now being put through practice paces by Laurence Pinkerton, manager.

Divorce Suit Begun

Charging her husband with constant association with other women of questionable character, Mae L. Knight, of Pendleton, has filed a complaint in circuit court here for divorce from Lawrence Knight, a barber at present living in Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Knight were married in May 1929, and for a time resided in Athena.

Two Pioneer Women Pass On

Two pioneer women of the Milton neighborhood died this week. Tuesday the death of Mrs. W. A. Barnes, 60 was reported, dropsy being the cause of death. Wednesday, Mrs. Doherty, aged 72, died at her home four miles above Milton. She is survived by her husband, four daughters and two sons.

Battle Fatal To Deer

The carcasses of two deer, with antlers meshed in a death lock, were found recently near Broken Top mountain south of Bend, by Amos Wilkes of Redmond. The antlers were so tightly interlocked that it is impossible to get them apart without breaking off some of the points.

Governor Norblad Issues His Proclamation; Asking Thanksgiving Observance

Salem.—Governor Norblad issued the annual Thanksgiving proclamation of the executive office, setting apart Thursday, November 27, as Thanksgiving day. It concludes: "Let us on Thanksgiving day give thanks for the many good things bestowed upon us during the year. Let our thoughts turn again homeward, for homes are the focal centers of all thanksgiving. Let us be thankful for the well-laden table, the security of homes, the peace and prosperity and progress of our nation. Let us render assistance to the needy and sore distressed. Let us rededicate ourselves, our power, our strength and our prosperity to the service of that all-wise father, God."

Athena Musicians to Give a Thanksgiving Program

The musicians of Athena and vicinity will present a Thanksgiving program at the Christian church Sunday evening at seven-thirty o'clock.

In addition to the program as arranged, a community "sing" will be a feature of the entertainment and requests for favorite hymns will be made. The program follows:

- Welcome: Boys chorus—Aaron Douglas, Walter Singer, Buddy Weber, Gall Zerba, Kenneth Rogers, Gall McLean, Glenn Moore, Max Johnson and Wallace Chameness. Congregational Singing.
- Prayer.....Rev. Sias
- Response.....Choirs
- Duet: "More Love for Thee, Master"—Marjorie Douglas and Betty Jane Eager.
- Solo: "Remember now Thy Creator"—Kohler Betts.
- Quartet: "Thanksgiving Song"—Mrs. Floyd Pinkerton, Mrs. Lloyd Michener, George Gerking and C. M. Eager.
- Trombone Solo—Mr. Dan Tilley.
- Duet: "When I look in his face"—Jean Zerba and Clara Flock.
- Quartet: "Great is the Lord"—Laurence Pinkerton, George Gerking, Rev. Sias and C. M. Eager.
- Solo: "O Lord, My Redeemer"—Mrs. E. F. Bloom.
- Boys' chorus: "Hold that line."
- Solo: "When I Behold"—Mrs. Ralph McEwen.
- Duet—Mrs. Floyd Pinkerton and Mrs. Ed Montague.
- Sextette: "Come ye thankful people"—Mrs. Ross Payne, Mrs. Clarence Zerba, Mrs. Kohler Betts, Miss Clara Flock, Lewis Stewart and Clarence Zerba.
- Reading: "Thanksgiving"—Mrs. C. M. Eager.
- Duet: "O Light of all the World"—Mrs. E. F. Bloom and Mrs. Ralph McEwen.
- Solo: "King of the Deep"—C. M. Eager.
- Octette: "Make the World Better"—Mrs. Floyd Pinkerton, Mrs. Ralph McEwen, Mrs. E. F. Bloom, Mrs. Flint Johns, Miss Della Bryant, Mrs. Lloyd Michener, Mrs. Arthur Douglas and Mrs. Ed Montague. Benediction.

Whitman At Salem

Coach Boriesley will take his Missionaries to Salem, where tomorrow they will engage Willamette University in the last football game to be played this year in the Northwest conference schedule. The teams are now tied for first place and only a tie score in tomorrow's game can prevent one or the other of these teams from emerging from the contest, championship winners. Bets are even.

Meier Campaign Fund

Items totaling \$70,190.04 showing campaign expenditures in behalf of the candidacy of Julius L. Meier, successful independent candidate for governor, were filed with the secretary of state.

Klamath River Ceded To Reclamation Commission

Salem.—Confirming a statement made by L. A. Liljeqvist, assistant attorney general, in a recent hearing before the State Reclamation Commission, I. H. Van Winkle, attorney general, in an opinion to Governor Norblad, holds that "all of the waters of Klamath River and all of its sources of supply not already appropriated" has been ceded by the state to the federal Reclamation commission and that therefore there is no water available for appropriation under an application filed by the California-Oregon Power company involving seven power projects on the Klamath river.

According to this opinion there can be no further power developments on the Klamath river without the specific consent of the Reclamation service and Dr. Elwood Meade, commissioner of that bureau, has advised Attorney General Van Winkle that while the department has no desire to retard development and would be willing to release any water not needed for its purposes such release would be made only "upon adequate assurance and showing that the rights of the government and the project water users would be in no way prejudiced thereby."

Walla Walla Woman Finds Poison In Cake

Mrs. George Mavor, living north of Enterprise, Walla Walla county, last week, baked a cake of which the family ate. She then left the premises for the night. Returning the next day and again sampling the cake she found it was intensely bitter. Some of it was fed to a cat and two pigs, producing death in a short time.

A sample sent to the state dairy and food commissioner by the district attorney for analysis was found to contain strychnine. The matter is under investigation by county officers.

Home Destroyed By Fire

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Spencer, (Dorothy Lee) near Palouse, Wash., was totally destroyed by fire last week. Only a small portion of the contents were saved from the burning home. Mr. Spencer was not at home at the time of the fire, but was at her school, teaching. Mr. Spencer was about his farm when the flames, which are thought to have started from a defective flue, were discovered. It was then too late to save but little of the household effects.

Special Road Tax Carries

At a meeting held Monday afternoon by the legal voters in special road District No. 61, to vote a special tax of not to exceed 10 mills for road improvement, the measure carried. The road in question leads east and north from the north city limits of Athena, past the Sheard, Schubert, Hansell and Haneey places to Lamar school house. At that point road improvement will be made east to the Joe Key place and west to the Swagart farm.

Hermiston Turkey Shipments

Turkey marketing is now occupying the time and attention of west end producers of the birds. Two shipments of the Thanksgiving birds have gone out, the Twin City creameries and Swift & Company receiving birds on Monday, November 11. Swift & Company are reported to have received about 6000 pounds and the Kenwick firm about 5000 pounds on that day.

Coach Pleased With His Material for Athena High School Basketball Players

Coach Miller has let it be known that he is pleased with this season's material that will enter into the player personnel of the Athena high school basketball team.

No less than twenty-two players turned out in suits Tuesday evening when the zero hour for first practice of the season ticked off, and four men of last year's team are yet to report. So the coach is pleased and all pepped up over Athena basketball prospects, after he divided the group into four teams and turned 'em loose on the gym floor.

Intensive practice is the order of the day, and tonight at 7:30, open to the public, there will be played a double-header between these four teams, the cream of which will be drawn into the regular quintet that will carry the Athena banner throughout the scholastic schedule during the winter.

To give the boys all practice possible, Miller will stick the two winning teams back into a public contest next week, at which time the losers of tonight will also grapple.

It is known that Milton and other schools on the scholastic circuit have already been toying with the ball in practice and it behooves the local coach to get a move on his men to have them in trim for the first game shortly following Thanksgiving day.

He says that Fred McKinley and Glenn McCullough, new men trying for places on the team are showing up satisfactorily, and with other good ones trying out, competition is going to be strong for a place among the first stringers.

Wasa Walla Convict

A man giving the name of Sanford, was captured after attempting to hold up a subsidiary bank in Chicago. He tried to bluff the bank teller into forking over a thousand dollars by saying he held an explosive in a brief case he was carrying. The teller pressed an electric alarm and Sanford dashed through the door into the street, where he was captured. Police found a criminal record dating back to 1914. Under the alias of Lloyd Visnaw they found that he had been sentenced to prison in Walla Walla, Wash., in 1914 for forgery and escaped in 1915.

Fifty-Two Banks Fail, But Will Reopen In Arkansas

Little Rock.—Financial leaders struck a note of optimism as negotiations went forward for the reopening of most of the 52 banks in Arkansas which have closed or suspended within the past two days.

Nine additional small institutions closed under a five days suspension law or were taken in charge by the state banking department.

One of these was in the so-called A. B. Banks group, as were most of those closing or suspending business after the American Exchange Trust company at Little Rock suspended for five days.

Although the institutions are known as the A. B. Banks group, A. B. Banks, the controlling stockholder of most of them, explained they are separate units and are not affiliated with the American Exchange Trust company of Little Rock, of which he is president.

Annual Bazaar

Extensive preparations are being made by the ladies of the Christian church for their annual bazaar and dinner to be held on Friday, December 5th, in the reception and dining rooms of the church. Booths for various fancy and useful articles will be arranged about the rooms, including the ever popular grab box, home made candies, etc. A substantial dinner will be served in cafeteria order, each serving 5 and 10 cents, the whole menu not to exceed 45 or 50 cents. Dinner will begin at 5 o'clock, the sale during the afternoon. Donations and patronage will be highly appreciated.

Car Stuck In Snow

Mrs. Arthur Moulton of Portland and Mrs. W. A. Taylor of Longview, have been visiting in the city, at the home of J. F. Kershaw, brother of Mrs. Moulton. The ladies experienced an adventure while motoring through from Medford to Athena. At a point on the Dallos-California highway, between Klamath Falls and Bend, they encountered huge snow drifts that stalled their car. They were finally rescued and their machine trailed into Bend behind a car sent from that city.

Game Indefinitely Postponed

The game scheduled between Athena and Touchet football teams for last Saturday, was indefinitely postponed on account of bad weather conditions. At the time the Athena team was ready to start on the trip to Touchet, a blizzard was raging here, but it is reported that in the Touchet country, favorable weather prevailed.

"Oregon Wildcat" Gets His

Robert Gordon Duncan, self-styled "Oregon Wildcat," drew a sentence of six months in jail and a \$500 fine from Judge Bean in federal court at Portland, Monday. Duncan appealed and gave \$2500 bond.

Gould-Diggins

Miss Bernice F. Gould of Weston, and Frank S. Diggins of Milton, were united in marriage Tuesday, at Walla Walla, by Justice of the Peace C. M. Wilbur.

INCREASE ACREAGE PRODUCTION OF PEAS

The Washington-Idaho Seed Company Expect to Plant 1,600 Acres In Spring.

The Washington-Idaho Seed company, which is operating a large cleaning and sorting plant in Athena contemplates an increase in acreage next season considerably over the number of acres handled this year. The company expects to seed 1,600 acres to different varieties of peas next spring.

Aside from the company's acreage in this vicinity, it is expected that a number of farmers will raise peas independently, selling the crop after harvesting, to the company.

The crop this year demonstrated to the company that this section is adapted to profitable production of peas, both in yield and quality and developments in that respect have led to the decision for more acreage.

In addition to the local crop raised this season, the company's Athena plant is handling shipments from the Palouse region and from the Bonners Ferry, Idaho, district. The principal varieties raised here are Perfection and Alaskan peas. There is a firm demand for these varieties of seed peas from Eastern distributors and to date ten carloads have been shipped from the local plant.

Mr. Sloan, manager for the company, experimented to some extent with varieties other than Perfection and Alaskan the past season. He obtained satisfactory results and will probably devote some acreage to them next year. It is understood the company expects to handle next year a pea crop of 2,500 to 3,000 acres.

At the present time 47 persons are employed in the company's Athena plant, 42 of which are women and girls, who work at sorting the peas after they come from cleaning machines. Zeke O'Hara, a well known young man of Weston, is perfecting a machine to sort peas through air suction process. The machine was given a practical workout in the local plant and demonstrated its possibilities in facilitating the removal of inferior peas from the seed stock.