

**Sherman County Journal**

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**GILES L. FRENCH** Managing Editor



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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1933.

**WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT?**

Sales tax arguments both for and against lead to some queer conclusions to persons given to wondering just where we are going with our government. Years ago when the country was young nearly everyone held some real property. There was no other kind of property that amounted to much, anyway. A general property tax was the accepted thing and it was fair enough.

Now we have conditions that are considerably different. Holders of real property are not in the majority, in fact, they represent less than 40 percent of the total wealth according to some estimates. There are government bonds, untaxed, municipal bonds, state bonds, county bonds, to say nothing of the debentures of other taxing units. Public and private property is mortgaged for a considerable part of its value and it still pays all the expenses of local and state government and the interest as well.

There has been some effort made to tax other property — the income, inheritance and intangibles tax — but in the main real property still carries the load of taxation and it is increasing. Now we have reached a position in the course of things when it has become practically impossible for real property owners to pay their taxes.

What to do about it. Shall we impose penalties and interest rates that will quicken the process of collection with the knowledge that many will be deprived of their property? Shall we search for other forms of taxation to bring relief to the real property taxpayer? Shall we increase income taxes to catch the owners of bonds, etc. so they will pay a larger percent of the total tax? Shall we drastically cut government expenditures and either stop entirely or seriously curtail many of the governmental activities the people have voted?

The legislature voted lower taxes and penalties for the real property taxpayer and refused to raise them again when it was shown that nearly everyone was paying that could be expected to do so. Other forms of taxation are likely to be beaten, which includes the sales tax. Everybody believes in an income tax as long as it doesn't get low enough to catch him; the proposal to lower exemptions to \$600 found few supporters. People groan publicly and privately about the huge costs of government and join with their neighbors in asking new roads, big dams, better schools, government power and a whole page full of other public knick-knacks that cost money.

It looks like the average citizen who pays little or no taxes will have to unbutton his pocket book or take off his wishing belt.

We were not at all disappointed to not be included in the list of those who know all about money. One couldn't judge about some thing one had not seen for so long.

The day after Christmas we say a big fat turkey standing in a barnyard and we'll say he looked as surprised as we felt.

We will soon have a new year. It is time that we had a year that we can bid adieu with some grief instead of hailing with joy its departure. Such a year should be due soon for even depressions don't last forever and this one shows signs of becoming threadbare. And that raises the question whether we get over such things or get used to them. Anyway 1934 should bring better things than did 1933 and we can stand it if it does.

Papers reported that this was the best Christmas for several years. Well it was the first time for several years people have had anything to celebrate for — or with?

The president received 18,000 letters in December. We suppose each and everyone of them told him something about how to run the government.

We suffer from bad times because we are not thrifty enough and then we are told to get out of it by spending instead of saving. In olden days there used to be a saying, "Whiskey makes you well when you're sick, and whiskey makes you sick when you're well."

During the W W (world war) we had wheatless and meatless days, during F L B (Federal Land Bank) plan we had interestless years, during the N R A we have workless days and now during the C W A Moro had a couple waterless days.

1933 signing off forever. Announcing the 1934 program sponsored by Father Time, incorporated.

**Review of Week's Events**

The storm that battered the Oregon and Washington coast with wind and rain for over two weeks apparently ended early this week although roads and homes are still flooded and slides are a daily occurrence along highways and railroads. Over twenty people were killed by rising water, slides or injuries resulting from flood conditions.

Kelso and Woodland along the Lewis river in Washington were partially flooded and many residents had to leave their homes. A Tacoma man caught a ten-pound salmon on the Pacific highway near his home town.

It is estimated that the new tax of \$2 per gallon on hard liquor will bring in between two and three hundred dollars per year to the federal government. Tax reductions have been announced to equal this sum; gasoline taxes have been reduced to one half cent.

Two vessels have crashed into Portland bridges since a week ago. The first one damaged the railroad bridge causing delay to east and south bound trains, and the second struck the west pier of the Broadway bridge and was held there by the current for several hours.

The RFC has approved a loan of over \$250,000 to the Ochoco irrigation district at Prineville if the district will reduce the acreage under the project from 14,700 to 8,500 and if the state will cancel its interest claim for half a million dollars. Bond holders will be asked to reduce their claims on the district.

**Grass Valley**

Kenneth Todd was operated on in The Dalles hospital last Thursday for acute appendicitis. He is doing nicely.

Don Smith and Dale Baker are here this week from Forest Grove where they attend Pacific University. Bruce Alley is home from Willamette.

Miss Lois Ruell is here from Beaverton to spend the Christmas vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Russell.

The advent of slippery roads and cooler weather has given the younger set a "yeen" for riding sleds behind automobiles with resulting yells of amusement and some snow down the neck.

Mrs. Erma Olds and daughter, Dorothy, and Mrs. Pauline Wilcox left for Portland Tuesday morning for a few days visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Gaylors Davies are spending the Christmas vacation with relatives in Sprng Dale.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Justesen and small son, Eddie, are visiting friends and relatives in Sherman county this week from Walla Walla, where Harry is manager of an oil station.

Robert Eslinger and wife who left some weeks ago for Portland to escape the winter weather, came home again just in time for the only freezing time so far. Bob says he is going to spend the remainder of the winter in The Dalles.

The Grass Valley Auditorium is being painted by CWA workers this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowe spent their reprieve from scholastic duties at St. Helens.

Vern McGowan with his wife and son is here for the Christmas season from Pendleton where he is teaching.

Bob Johnson's father and mother from Bend spent Christmas here with Bob and family.

Herman Peters and family are in Newberg this week as guests of Dr. Frank Wilcox and family.

Les Peterson, wife and children, are visiting at Garabaldi with Rollo Nunn, whose wife is Lee's sister.

Charles Engle, with his wife and child is spending the week at Dufur with Mrs. Engle's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Clark were in The Dalles for Christmas day.

Roy Justesen, who is now on a truck run from Bend to Burns, visited relatives in Sherman county Christmas.

The Rutledge school is probably the only one in the state that kept

right on holding school through Christmas week. Teacher, Mrs. Edna Purcell could not get away for Christmas and improved her opportunity to continue on teaching the children.

Elmer Hansen and wife of Goldendale were Christmas guests at Kent.

Mrs. Glen Fairchild is a visitor in Seattle this week.

Erasmus Baker is home for vacation from Pacific University, Forest Grove.

Miss Phyllis Smith was a visitor in Hood River this week having left Tuesday morning.

Miss Rachel Bayne, sister of Mrs. C. L. Poley is visiting here for a few days.

Florin Coon and wife were in Colton a part of the Christmas vacation visiting with Mrs. Coon's parents.

Bob Poley is spending the Christmas holidays home from Eugene where he is a medical student at the University.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Fisher are visiting here with the S. L. Boyce family. Mrs. Fisher is a daughter of the Boyces.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the friends who gave their assistance and comfort to us at the time of the funeral of our father, W. B. Wilcox.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Wilcox  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. W. King  
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilcox  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wilcox

**Wasco**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Manning left for McMinnville Saturday to spend Christmas with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Root spent the holidays at Dayton with their son and daughter in law.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed McKee and Margaret and Mrs. Dunlap spent Monday at the Eaton home.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Andrews of Albany were guests at the home of Mr. Andrews' parents over the holidays.

Kenneth Woods visited his wife and son in Portland last week. Mrs. Woods has been in the city with her young son who is receiving medical attention.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Burres entertained the Saturday night dinner club, following the dinner with bridge. High scores for the club were made by Mrs. Bruce Grady and Hugh Walker and Mrs. Halley won guest prize. Guests of the club included Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Johnson, Mrs. Augusta Huckin and Mrs. E. B. Halley.

Mr. and Mrs. John Royce had as their dinner guests Monday Mr. and Mrs. Otis Royce, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Lamborn, Bernis Guy and family, Malcolm Guy and Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Young of Dufur.

B. H. Grady and family spent Sunday and Monday at Goldendale with Mr. Grady's mother Mrs. E. V. Grady.

Mary Jeannette Sargent was a guest at Fortner home Tuesday.

The Wasco Woman's Study Club met Friday at the home of Mrs. Bruce Grady. Mrs. Roy Atwood gave a good paper on "Art" and Mrs. Haven one on the Madonna which were enjoyed. There were 14 present.

The 8th grade of the Wasco school entertained their parents with a splendid program Friday afternoon.

The Community Christmas tree program was well attended Saturday night at the school house. About 200 bags of Christmas candy and nuts were given out.

Joy White is spending the vacation with her parents. Miss White is attending school in California.

Mr. and Mrs. George Van Gaabeck and family of Blalock were guests at the McKee home last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Estes Morton and family spent the holidays at Walla Walla with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sprague who have been in Wasco several months left the first of the week for Shaniko. Mr. Sprague is with the Reconstruction Finance Company.

Melvin Walsh is spending the vacation with his parents. He is attending school at Linfield.

The Tuesday Study Club held their Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Leo Watkins last Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Warner talked on "The Shepherds of the Holy Land" and Mrs. Grady gave a paper on the "Forest Reserves." After the program each member received a gift and a box of gifts was sent to the Dorenbecker hospital in Portland. Refreshments were served at the close of the afternoon by Mesdames Dingle, Andrew and Grady.

Joe Yocum spent Christmas in Portland at the Marcus Church home.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade Hull of Portland spent the holidays with Mrs. Hull's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Andrews.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sawin spent the week end in Portland with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Richelderfer and children spent the week end at Sherwood with relatives.

Darrell McQuillan of Kelso spent several days with his parents.

L. J. Lucas and family and Mrs. Eva Doane of Condon spent the week end at Wasco.

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Haven spent Christmas at Hood River with Mrs. Haven's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hull of Portland spent Sunday and Monday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Free

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Crews.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bowman and Mrs. Cecil Ward all of Goldendale spent Sunday and Monday at Wasco at the E. L. Welde home.

Saturday night after the Community Christmas tree a number of friends spent the evening playing cards at the Dick Schunke home.

The Klondike Social Club will entertain their husbands January 13th at the Chub Johnson home.

Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Grady and of The Dalles were guests at the Grady home Tuesday.

The Klondike grange held a pie social at their hall Saturday. A program was given after which the pies were sold by Claude Eaton as auctioneer. Later in the evening dancing was enjoyed and sandwiches, pie and coffee was served.

Mrs. Mae Reid spent last week in Wasco. She has been employed in Yakima.

Mrs. Estelle Hailey entertained her father as her guest for the holidays from his home in Portland.

Miss Ritha Burres is home from Turner spending the holidays with her parents.

Guests at the Ed McKee home Sunday evening were Mr. and Mrs. Marion McKee and son of Moro, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Stevenson and Mr. and Mrs. Claude Eaton and sons.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Alley of Grass Valley were week end guests at the J. N. Stevenson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Banta and Mr. and Mrs. Vintos Watkins were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Yocum.

Mrs. Brock entertained the Klondike social club last Friday with 500. High score was made by Mrs. Dick Yocum and consolation by Mrs. Hansen. Guest prize went to Mrs. Joe Hilderbrand.

Mignon Wall, Jean Wall, Winifred Fortner, Mary Jeannette Sargent, Malcolm Guy, Arthur Spencer, Nyal and Ed Grady attended the Rainbow girls dance at The Dalles Tuesday night.

Mrs. John Crawford of Northdallaes was a guest at the Fortner home this last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mathias of Yakima spent the holidays at the Fred Hennagin home.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Barnum of

Moro spent Christmas day at the home of Mrs. B. F. Medler, mother of Mrs. Barnum.

Mrs. W. Barnets is spending the winter in Portland with her daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Burres spent several days in Portland last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Barzee are visiting in Portland with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul McCulloch were dinner guests last Sunday at the Sargent home.

Mr. Gertrude Pepper returned from Arlington the first of the week.

Mrs. Augusta Huckin entertained a number of young people at her home Wednesday night.

**Land Bank All Caught Up On Appraisals**

The object of the Federal Land Bank of Spokane to appraise all applications for loans filed by December 1 has been substantially accomplished according to word from Spokane headquarters today. The building of the staff in the field from twenty appraisers to over 500, together with good breaks in weather conditions throughout the four orthwestern states has resulted in this victory for the Appraisal department according to E. M. Ehrhardt, President.

The above applies to both first mortgage loans made by the Land Bank Commissioner which are handled through the Bank.

The practical effect of speeding up appraisals is shown in the fact that the farmers of the Northwest received over double the amount of money in farm loans for the week ending November 29 compared with the previous week, the amounts being \$714,650 and \$343,900 respectively. Approved applications to date this year total \$18,500,240.

In spite of the unprecedented volume of applications filed with the Spokane Federal Land Bank, appraisals can now be made currently where the weather permits. With an adequate appraisal force, the greatest impediment now to the prompt closing of loans and getting the money to the farmers is the lack of prompt action on the part of applicants, their creditors and local abstractors and recorders in returning abstracts and papers. A total of 4,418 approved applications now await such outside action, over which the Bank has no control.



We wish each and every one of our customers and friends a most

Happy and Prosperous New Year

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