

SHERMAN COUNTY JOURNAL

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Giles L. French Editor

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SCHOOL TAXES

One of the finest fights of this session of the legislature has been over school taxes. School teachers and some newly organized groups of school officials have asked for much larger sums for schools and have demanded that this money be taken from income taxes. These proposals bring up a much larger problem.

Oregon is a comparatively small state. It has always depended on property taxes for support of all governmental functions until about 15 years ago when the income tax was passed. The money from this tax, however, are to be used as a property tax offset. It is considered probable that the income tax could not have been passed nor retained without this feature. It is a most desirable feature as far as property taxpayers are concerned.

No new taxes of moment have been passed since that time. There are a few but they bring in little real money. The sales tax is universally beaten. Under such circumstances any tax levied by the state for school or other purposes may become a property tax in any year. It is a property tax except it may be offset by income taxes if they be sufficiently high.

Therefore, state taxes for schools are merely equalization taxes. They tax the same people for the same thing. The effect is to equalize. This helps the thickly populated counties and hurts the better financed counties.

Unless and until there are other taxes voted by the people this condition will prevail. The only solution to the school tax problem is a new tax.

It is also a fact that the state can hardly be expected to keep putting tax money into the school districts unless those districts are returned in some way from wasting that money by carelessness or poor financing.

In 1944-45 there was about 15 percent of the property in the state that paid no special school tax at all. The expense of these districts were met by the state and county school funds. It hardly seems proper for the state to be subsidizing some school districts so fully that they should pay no school taxes and at the same time other school districts are finding difficulty in getting along.

When it again becomes difficult for property owners to pay their taxes it is expected that there will be a stronger movement to reduce the amount of tax exempt property in Oregon which is probably higher than in most states. The federal government, the state and county governments all have half of the property off the tax rolls. The list of other exemptions is long. Even in income taxes there is constant pressure for additional exemptions. This makes it harder for the man who goes along and pays his taxes to get along.

There is a serious gap in our tax laws that must be closed. When that is done paying taxes will be easier and more equitable for all, and perhaps it will be possible for some new tax to be passed if everyone must pay.

MARCH FREEZE

Everyone has heard of the famous March freeze-out that occurred in one of the early years of the century. There are some among us who were farming in that year and who can recall the details clearly. For most it is a historical matter.

This year there was a recurrence of cold weather in March that came after a winter that threatened but did little toward making a real winter out of it. It is not considered likely that much of the wheat crop was damaged although that might be a possibility. In Umatilla county the farmers who sowed their pea crop early will have to do it again.

We consider that March is one

of our uncomfortable months with its blustery wind, its frequent and dependable showers and changeable weather. It is as bad as January—and worse—for in January the farmers can sit around the fire and warm themselves while in March they must be out in the storms and wind.

Colder weather in March is therefore bad in that it is more uncomfortable than in any other month and it also delays spring planting which is a problem of special moment this year.

HOW TO GET \$5,000 FROM \$37.50 A MONTH

"If you want \$5,000 in 10 years, just start investing \$37.50 in War Bonds each month and you'll have that five thousand when 10 years roll by," says M. L. Predmars, Chief of the Agricultural Section of the U. S. Treasury's War Finance Division.

He especially recommends this method of saving for the farmer who wants to build up an investment that will assure funds for the education of the children, or money for worth-while improvements.

That's the way the savings and interest will accumulate—what a person puts \$37.50 in war bonds each month. To be exact the accumulation would total \$5,998 in 10 years. If \$112.50 is invested quarterly, or \$225 each six months, it will add up to the same in the end, since the increment on all "E" bonds is reckoned on a six month's basis after the first year. These larger investments at longer intervals suit most farmers better.

In Other Days

From the Observer, March 16, 1906 A lot of children's shoes for 49c formerly \$1.25 at J. W. Messinger & Son.

J. H. Sachs has purchased the McCaleb building on Main street, and will soon be at home under his own roof, up stairs and down.

The weather was so wintry and bad in Moro last Saturday that dray teams were given a lay off and remained blanketed in their stalls nearly all day long.

Miss Edith Belshee's team got away from her on the 9th and left her at the farm gate. Her walk home, half a mile, was exhilarating in the warm sunshine. The buggy pole was broken, all the damages reported.

From the Observer, March 17, 1916 Everett Hastings and bride were charivari Thursday last at his home in upper Hay Canyon. The serenading guests were treated to a lunch of coffee, sandwiches and cake. The men of the party also received cigars.

The mock trial put on at the county court house last Friday evening by the pupils of Moro high school was a feature of school work highly interesting to the patrons of this district. It was good practice work and those taking part creditably simulated regular court practice.

Martin Hansen has had an annex built onto his residence for use as an up-to-date bath room. He is now

SPECIAL GAS RATION FOR VETERANS SEEKING JOBS

Special gasoline rations limited to 400 miles in any 30-day period to help discharged war veterans and displaced civilian workers, who must use automobiles for travel to job interviews, were provided today by the OPA. All persons applying for these special allocations must be sure to accompany their application with their mileage rationing record.

A person applying for a ration must present a referral card showing the name of the prospective employer and the place of the interview.

Army transport planes bring home many wounded, with army flight nurses accompanying each group. Many of these Army nurses regularly fly over vast expanses of ocean, caring for wounded fighting men who are brought back from advanced bases in the European theater of operations and in the Pacific.

busy fencing his residence property.

A freight train, running away on the steep grade into Biggs, was wrecked last Thursday morning, causing the death of the fireman, Lew Kaster and brakeman, J. W. Stimpson, and serious injury of the engineer.

From the Observer, March 19, 1926 Friday, March 12th, a son arrived at Tony Schmitt's home on the Buckley ranch. Tony says that he is named Norman Patrick.

Mrs. Carrie E. Holms of Grass Valley, wife of Sam B. Homes, died at the family home in that city Friday morning, March 12th, following a brief illness.

Job Burden-Eaton died suddenly Tuesday afternoon while engaged in his regular work piling sacks at the Wasco Warehouse Milling company at Wasco.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mitchell returned late last week from a trip into Morrow and Umatilla counties where Mr. Mitchell was engaged in planting nursery test plots of wheat, oats and barley.

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78, O.E.S. Meets Every Second and Fourth Thursdays in each Month. Visiting Members Invited—Moro, Oregon. Rose Amidon, W. M. Ruth Spurling, Secretary

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Clara Houston, N. G. Florence Johnston, S. W.

Lureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month. Visiting members are cordially invited to meet with us. C. A. Ruggles, W. M. W. D. Wallan, Secretary

Moro Lodge No. 113, I.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us.

Ernest Houston, N. G. A. R. Kessinger, Secretary



A BELL for ADANO - by John Hersey

WNU Service.

Tomasino's wife came in from the kitchen with a platter of tortone and saved the day. She must have weighed two hundred and fifty pounds. She put the candy down.

Giuseppe jumped to his feet and introduced the Major to Tomasino's wife. Her name was Rosa.

She said in her husky fat lady's voice: "I am delighted to see you here, Mister Major. That wet stone"—she pointed at Tomasino—"almost refused to go and ask you."

Captain Purvis said: "Where are these pretty mackerel the old fish-hound is supposed to have? Say, Major, we got to make a deal here. Giuseppe here says he thinks I'd like the dark one best."

Giuseppe put in a word for his loyalty: "I'm a save a blonde for you, boss."

Major Joppolo really didn't know what to say.

Giuseppe said quickly to the fat Rosa: "Where are the girls?"

The mother said: "If you think you can hurry two pretty girls trying to make themselves prettier, you'll find them in the bedroom."

Major Joppolo was alarmed to see Giuseppe get up and go into the bedroom. He wondered what kind of girls these were, anyhow.

But in a few moments Giuseppe came back, leading a girl by each hand. He had apparently explained the situation to the girls, because Tina went directly to Major Joppolo, shook his hand, and sat down beside him, and the dark one, Francesca, went straight to Captain Purvis, shook his hand, and sat down by him.

"Mmm," said Captain Purvis,

"not bad." He felt secure in the certainty that the girls did not speak English.

"Take it easy," Major Joppolo said.

Tina said in Italian: "I heard you breathing in church last Sunday. You ought to take more exercise, Mister Major."

Major Joppolo said: "I was late, I was very late. I got working on something, and I lost track of time. I had to run to church. It was very embarrassing."

"You had Father Pensovecchio worried. I could tell by the way he got mixed up in his service."

Major Joppolo said: "Do you go to church every Sunday?"

Tina said: "Of course."

Major Joppolo was able to talk with Tina, interrupted only once in a while by bursts from the mother and gales of laughter all around the room, except from Tomasino, who

stared moodily at the floor.

The Major said: "Do you always go to the Church of San Angelo?"

This time it was Tina who blushed. "No," she said. "Giuseppe told me you were going to be there. I wanted to see what the American Major was like. Most Sundays I go to the Church of the Benedettini."

Major Joppolo said: "What did you think of the American Major?"

Tina said: "He breathes very loudly, like the leaky bellows of the pipe organ at the Benedettini."

The Major laughed.

"Have a piece of tortone," Tina said. "I made it."

One could not very well turn down an invitation put just that way, so the Major took a big piece. The candy was passed all around the room, and for a time all conversation stopped. Nothing could be heard except the crunching of nuts between teeth and the smacking sound of boiled sugar coming unstuck from teeth. During this time of chewing, Major Joppolo couldn't help thinking how strange it was to build a whole evening around the eating of tortone, but that seemed to be the program.

When he dared, Major Joppolo said "Good."

Captain Purvis could afford to be more honest in English. He said: "What did we come to, a glue factory?"

"Another piece," Tina said to the Major cordially.

"In a few minutes," the Major said.

"We must have some wine," the fat and happy Rosa said. "Go out in the kitchen, fool," she said to Tomasino, "and get a bottle of Marsala."

Wine on top of tortone, and probably mixed right up with it. Major Joppolo could think of nothing less tempting, but Captain Purvis, hearing the word vino, shouted: "Vino, hurrah for vino."

Major Joppolo stood up and said: "Purvis, either you shut your big trap or I'll throw you out of here."

Captain Purvis said: "Aw come on, Major, don't be a spoil sport. You know you feel the same way, if you were just honest enough to say so."

"Shut up, Purvis!" The Major's eyes blazed. "That's an order. Now you behave yourself."

"I've never been so happy in my life."

Continued Next Week

This Is an Urgent Message To Every Woman in Sherman County



A Woc helps a soldier rediscover the use of bottle-sheltered fingers

Join the Special Medical Unit from Sherman County Now

Every city in Oregon is being asked to organize a special platoon of Women's Army Corps members to leave as a group for training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, after selecting one of 11 hospitals in the seven western states for duty. Age limits are 20 through 40 with at least two years of high school education, or its equivalent.

For full details, contact Wily W. Knighten, County OCD Coordinator, at the Court House, Moro

Don't delay--Act now!

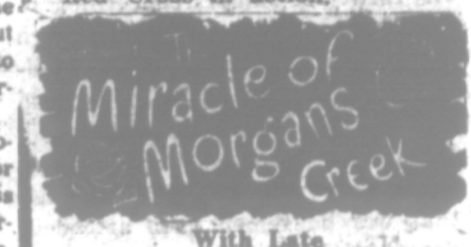
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GRASS VALLEY THEATRE

This Week Fri. - Sat. - Sun. 16 - 17 - 18

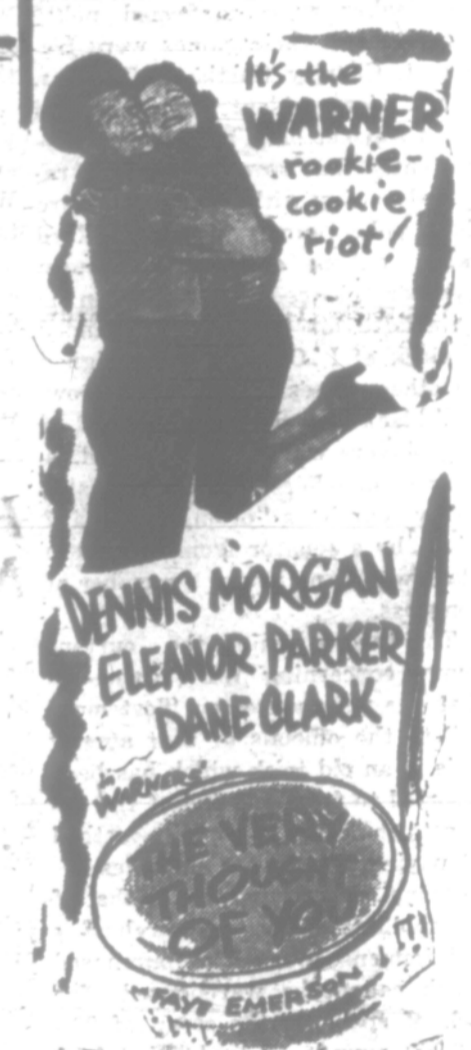


The excitingly lovely Ingrid Bergman is on the screen of this theatre this week in a short subject dedicated to "Red Cross War Fund Week" currently being observed by the motion picture industry. Her appearance as a charming emissary of mercy is engendered by vivid scenes of the Red Cross in action.



Paramount News and Cartoon

NEXT WEEK Tues. - Wed. - Thur. 20 - 21 - 22



STAMPS BUY BONDS On Sale in Lobby

News of the Day and Cartoon

Grass Valley Theatre—Phone 101 DOORS OPEN AT 7:15 P. M. SHOW STARTS AT 8:00 P. M. ADMISSION ADULTS 40c.; CHILDREN 20c. MATINEE SUNDAYS, 2:00 P. M.

G.I.'s Teeter-Totter



This G.I. just couldn't resist the temptation to stop and teeter-totter with these three Filipino girls in the town of Dagupan on Luzon in the Philippines.