

County Journal

Published Every Friday at Moro, Oregon

Giles L. French, Editor
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CO-OP TAXES

Complaints about the passage of HB30 are being received from cooperatives throughout the state, although the cooperative council which met in Portland Monday night has so far registered no protest.

The bill is a part of the Tax Study program and was introduced by members of that group. It would do three things: Most important is that it would put utilities (those now assessed by the state tax commission including railroads, electric and water utilities, telephone and telegraph) under the excise tax. They object strenuously, and, as usual are getting others to fight their battles for them. Figures show that railroads, for instance, pay no more property tax in Oregon on their lines than they do in Idaho and Wyoming where they also pay an excise tax for the privilege of doing business.

Second thing the bill does is to remove another exemption of corporations that derive 95 percent of their income from rental of real estate. Corporate owners of big buildings have paid no excise tax for years under this provision, which the Tax Study commission recommended removing.

Third, and of least consequence, the bill would remove the exemption now obtained by cooperatives. It is extremely doubtful if the true cooperatives such as prevail in Sherman county would have to pay taxes under the bill, but the small part of their income not distributed as patronage dividends in the year obtained might be taxed. There would be double taxation only in the sense that owners of corporate stock are now taxed on both the income of the corporation and on personal income thereafter.

If cooperatives desire to be removed from the bill that can be done when it comes up for hearing. Working to defeat the entire bill is playing into the hands of the corporations who seem intent on using the cooperatives as a means of keeping their present tax immunity.

CHANGES

One of those periods of change seems to be upon Moro, when old time business sell out, families move from one house to another and new faces take the place of old.

Within a month two new garage proprietors have come to Moro with plans for different service to patrons. Two other new businesses have opened and with newly equipped and decorated quarters that helps the looks of the town.

For years, during the war, we got along with establishments that were pretty old fashioned and had little or none of the chrome and fancy lighting of modern houses. Other people did likewise. Now the style is different and it is proper that we should have a bit of it ourselves.

We welcome the new owners and hope they prove themselves as friendly and pleasant as were the men they succeed. That will be no little achievement.

New business here have most often been established by those who were born here who succeeded to a business by purchase or inheritance. It will probably do us good to have some new blood, with knowledge of what has been done in other places and new ideas.

SCHOOL EQUALIZATION

Readers may get very tired of hearing about the distribution of the funds voted by the people for schools. Taxpayers in this section of the state will be more tired before they get over paying for the cost of that program.

The Huffaker plan would cost this county \$107,000 and we would receive \$17,700 leaving us to pay \$90,000 more than we would receive. That is but little worse than the straight \$50 per census child mentioned in the bill. To the credit of the county it may be said that few informed people either worked or voted for it.

The Portland plan, now receiving analysis at the hands of its enemies would return more money to this county, but we would

still lose \$75,000 under that one. Another scheme, now being written, would make it impossible to take more than half of any county's payment from it.

The more discussion is had about this matter the more difficult it becomes to equalize taxes in Oregon. Oregon is a big state. It is as diverse in its geography as any state in the union. In agriculture, in industry, in density of population there are wide variations. There are vast differences in school costs.

It is unfortunate that the bill presented by the committee that sponsored the bill had to be written by men who almost entirely represented districts that would be favored by equalization of the kind imposed. Some of them, with a slowness almost unbelievable, have just now come to the realization of the iniquities of it. Perhaps the discovery that it will cost them money had something to do with that.

This is not a battle between the various theories of state equalization; it is a contest between those who will be aided and those who will not. Sharp pencils are of more value than sharp words. One must believe that equalization is not a theory at all, but an excuse for taking money from a neighbor without harm to a caloused conscience. "We need the money" is the battle cry and mention of children and education is made for purely rhetorical reasons.

There are a few men of good will who really dislike to do so much major violence to the tax economy of a section of their state, and it is upon these the unlucky 13 eastern counties must rely for aid in keeping their schools on a fairly good basis.

Sherman county schools now cost taxpayers \$95,000, plus some \$23,000 from state school support. Under the proposed bill we would get \$17,700 and pay out \$107,000, as previously stated. That means that our tax for schools would be doubled with no additional quality added, to the school system. Our costs are already high because of few children and long distances. All this in the name of equalization.

OF COURSE

The newspapers are making some little to-do about mention from high sources of Truman's name for president. No one else was greatly surprised.

It is very difficult for any political party to repudiate a man who has held office, especially so high an office. That might have accounted for the repeated nomination of Roosevelt. When a political party fails to nominate an incumbent it says, in effect, that we have been wrong in recent years. That just isn't done.

Furthermore, if a president wants to he can keep any other candidate from getting very powerful. An elected official might be able to upset a president although it is difficult. It seems most likely that Mr. Truman will be the democratic nominee. Why shouldn't he?

Pureka 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. E. E. Barzee, W. M.

H. B. Pinkerton, Secretary
Bethlehem Chapter No. 78, O.E.S. Meets Every Second and Fourth Thursdays in each Month. Visiting Members Invited.—Moro, Oregon. Genevieve Powell, W. M. Edna Melzer, Secretary

Waco 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. John Lawrence N.G. A. R. Kessinger, Secretary

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Rufus News Items

Mrs. George Fox and daughter, Dolores, spent Wednesday through Monday visiting friends and relatives in Portland and Corvallis. While in Corvallis, Dolores attended the Orange-Lemon Squeeze which was held at the M. U. after the Oregon-Oregon State basketball game. This dance had a larger attendance than any other formal occasion which had been held this season. On Sunday afternoon a birthday dinner and party was given for Miss Elizabeth Gerding, an aunt of Mrs. George Fox.

A Rufus Grange birthday anniversary party is being held at the hall Saturday evening, February 15. The Grange meeting was very well attended Thursday evening with twenty-five members present. Five candidates are awaiting membership.

Mrs. Virginia White, niece of Mrs. Elizabeth Kuypers, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kuypers.

Mrs. Hugh Mathieson returned from California Saturday. Mrs. Mathieson had been visiting her daughter, Geraldine, while in California.

Mrs. H. H. Brackett, Mrs. T. L. Fields and Mrs. C. A. Tom attended lodge at The Dalles Monday evening.

Mrs. Grant Boice is visiting friends in Hood River.

Mr. and Mrs. John Mathieson motored to Goldendale Monday.

Mrs. Alta Smith and daughters, Donna and Darlene, and Clifford Trumbo visited Mrs. Smith's father in Goldendale over the week end.

Tom Helvey of The Dalles spent Friday evening at Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kuypers.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the estate of Asa David Richelderfer, deceased, are hereby notified to present them in proper form, to the undersigned the duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrators of the estate of Asa David Richelderfer, deceased, at the office of Geo. G. Updegraff, Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice, to wit: January 31, 1947.

Geo. G. Updegraff,
Attorney for Administrators.

Published in the issues of: Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14 and 21, 1947.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the Estate of Frankie Powell, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, with the proper vouchers and duly verified to the undersigned, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Administratrix of the Estate of Frankie Powell, deceased, at the office of T. Lester Johnson, Attorney at law, Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of first publication of this notice, to-wit: February 7, 1947.

Opal Parkins
Administratrix

T. Lester Johnson,
Attorney at law,
Moro, Oregon.
Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28.

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Portland	2.60	4.55

Bacholts Confectionery
Moro, Oregon

GREYHOUND
Operated by UNION PACIFIC STAGES, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey Miller were Thursday evening dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Philippi.

The Wasco grade school boys defeated the Rufus grade school boys on the Rufus floor Friday evening. The basketball game was an exciting and close victory for

the Wasco Warriors who won by a score of 16-15.

Dorsey Miller raffled off a half-Arabian, half-thoroughbred horse Sunday afternoon. There were chances sold on this horse at five dollars a chance. Roy Philippi was the lucky winner of this prized possession.

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

That Ring Around the Bathtub

Jeb Crowell blew his top the other day. Seems that for weeks he's been trying to get his youngsters to scrub out the bathtub after using it. And this night he sees two rings around it—one where young Sonny left off, and another about Pinky's level.

He raves and rants—and takes it out on the missus for her lack of discipline. And later that evening he sees her quietly polishing the hardwood table that's right by his chair. She's removing the rings he's left there with his evening glass of beer!

From now on, Jeb's careful to put his glass down on the table cover—like the missus does. And I hear he's a little more forgiving about rings around the bathtub. Just keeps on patiently reminding.

From where I sit, there are little annoyances in every family—conflicting habits and opinions in every community. A little patience—a little more "forgive and let live" is the only antidote.

Joe Marsh

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OLD KING COLE WAS A MERRY OLD SOUL AND A MERRY OLD SOUL WAS HE. HE CALLED FOR HIS PIPE ...



What a happy old gent King Cole would have been if he could have dashed down to his dealer to buy a super new 1947 radio on the Thrifty Pay Plan.

But, alas! The merry old rascal didn't live in this modern age and had to be content with three off-tune fiddlers. Which all goes to prove that you've got it all over Old King Cole! You can get the best in modern radios... or any other needed home appliance... and pay for it conveniently with a Thrifty Pay Loan from the First National Bank of Portland.

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