

Sherman County Journal

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HJR 9

It appears possible that the legislature will give approval to HJR9, and probable that the

house will pass it. It will have to be referred to the people and the date set is November 1950.

HJR 9 is a proposed constitutional amendment that limits the right of the state to levy a property tax except for payment of the state debt and the interest thereon.

It will be opposed by the more conservative section of the population and also by union labor which wants to keep the property tax a moderate income tax and no sales taxes at all. It will be odd to see what such an alignment will bring.

For the proposal should be property owners generally, especially the smaller ones who will not be caught with an income tax of much size.

The effect on the state's tax system will be tremendous. There will be no need for the six percent limitation for state purposes

because there will be nothing to limit. Property will receive better protection than before in the opinion of most experts. It will undoubtedly lead to a reformation of the corporate excise tax which at present is an involved thing, depending on payment of personal property taxes for eventual rate and being used as general property taxes for eventual rate and being used as general property tax offset in the final conclusion.

An entire realignment of the state's tax system could come from approval of HJR9 by the people in November 1950. And if carefully done that would be a fine thing for Oregon which does have so complicated a tax system that few understand it. In fact legislators have served for ten years without knowing how the tax system of the state really operates.

REAPPORTIONMENT

It seems very likely that reapportionment at this session of the legislature is as dead as it appeared to be when introduced with a partisan background. The senate killed it. A house proposal to give Multnomah county two senators and divide the other 28 among the 35 other counties doesn't seem to have much chance. Not that it may not pass the house, but it will have troubles in the senate which does not look kindly upon house attempts to reform it.

The history of reapportionment throughout the United States is not bright. Upstate districts almost always refuse to give any more representation to city districts and many states have resisted change much longer than has Oregon.

Reasons are always the same: fear of the radical elements found most often in the cities.

Rural people have time to think and are less often led by demagogues. They are the actual producers of new goods whereas city folks process them, sell them and service them. Economy of the nation, therefore, is probably best served by continued high representation from the rural areas and correspondingly smaller representations from the cities.

Anyway it seems that that is the way it is going, to be for another two years at least.

NO NEWSPAPERS

There may be sadness around the legislature because there are no newspapers to echo the resounding phrases of gallery influenced speeches but it has little effect on the general result. There are as many speeches as before and they are as long and just as bad.

In fact, except that there is little or nothing to read while the speeches are being made, the lack of newspapers has made no notable difference.

On the state the result may be different. Citizens interested in the passage or defeat of some bill have no accustomed way of finding out what has happened to it. Committee chairmen have to arrange for notice to interested parties about public hearings on bills and even then, some must not be heard who would have appeared had regular notice been in the papers.

HOW SLOW PEOPLE WALK

From the vantage point of a high building or some spot from which to watch the passing parade people seem to walk very slowly. Once in a while one comes along with speed in his heels but most tread a faltering pace.

Even the spacy stenographer who clicks her hard heels on the pavement so resolutely makes slow progress because her steps are short. He who swings himself along on crutches does as well as most because he strides at length.

There is deliberation about most walks as if the walker was unhurried, calm and with no particular interest in where he was going. One might think that in this day and age of self advertised speed and aggressiveness everyone would progress at some sort of a trot. But they do not.

T. Lester Johnson
LAWYER

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LEGISLATIVE NEWS

(Continued from Page 1)
tins of industrial accident of years past will receive greater benefits under a bill passed by both houses which may not be constitutional, however. The house passed two bills permitting all kinds of fishing gear to be used for another two years despite the vote of the people last November. The milk law repeal bill failed.

A highway program to raise gas taxes one to two cents and increase car licenses is due soon in addition to one putting cars on the tax rolls (cars are worth as much as all other personal property) and the bill for redistribution of highway funds to counties seems probable of passage.

Colds have hampered legislators as it isn't work one does best with snuffly nose and aching back.

Letter To The Editor:

TO The Editor of the Journal:

As a taxpayer who is much interested in and alarmed over the present taxation situation and outlook in Oregon, I wish to commend and subscribe to what was said in the Journal two weeks ago relative to the Executive Department of the State and pending tax proposals in the Capital.

The property taxpayers of our state are going to get bumped and severely hurt seriously, if they don't look out. It is very much as it was in the late 1920s, and if we do not begin to apply the brakes and to have a care, we shall surely be worse off then we were during the early and mid-1930s, as we are traveling much faster and more recklessly now than then.

All the boasting about the so called "Big Surplus" personal income and Excise taxes funds on hand in State Treasury is foolish anyway. Considering the present day budgets, those unexpended funds are only a moderate balance wheel, and they will soon enough disappear as the leveling off of employment, commodity prices, wages and the take from business takes place. In fact they will be gone like a flash when and if anything like a recession or depression comes on. By all means, they should not be transferred into the general fund, where they would be pie for the gimmie groups, who never know when they have enough. All power in the Legislature to sane elements that would keep the barn door closed, lest the horse of sound financing get out and away.

Very truly yours,
James B. Adams,
Portland, Oregon

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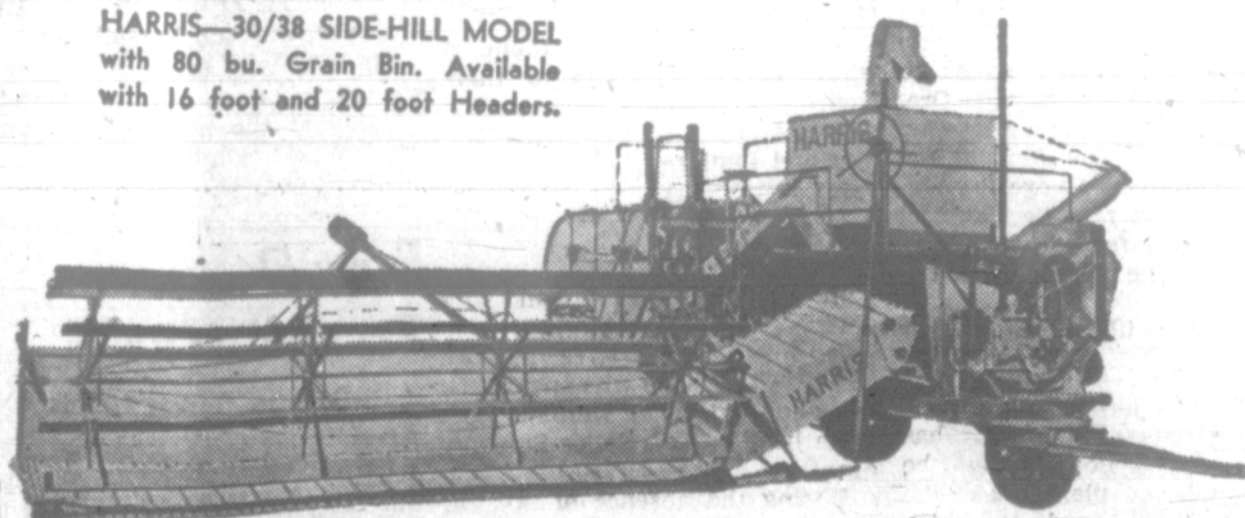
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In Days of Old

From the Observer, Mar. 2, 1900
Capt. Nelson has a perfect electric plant in operation lighting the City Foundry property. Call some dark night and see it.

A surprise party of friends and neighbors called on Don Wheat February 23, to celebrate his birthday. Present were Rev. and Mrs. Drake, Jos. Hockman and wife, Misses Maud, Nellie and Ada Belshe, May, Lottie and Mollie Robinson, Addie Hockman, Stella and Ferna Drake, Ida Coy, Ola and Phernie Miller, Edna Strahl, Jennie Kay, Lena Kendall, Gerlie Elrod, Messrs. Clay and Lonnie Belshe, Amos Pierce, Irwin Pike, M. L. and Ben Cochran, Guy Drake, Willie and Ben Hockman, George Rebman, George Howard, Ernest Coy, Roy, Perry Warren and Melvin Miller, James and Ellsworth Woods and John Foss.

From the G. V. J., Feb. 28, 1910
The three Italians brought up from the Deschutes river last Thursday were fined \$25 each, for being too handy with their pistols.

Mrs. Stanton Black returned to her Ashwood home Thursday after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Black.

Twohy Bros.' teams are rushing heavy timbers to the Deschutes river. There are only two tunnels on the Deschutes railroad work between Sherar Bridge and the mouth of the river one is 800 foot long and the other 1000 feet.

From the G. V. J., Feb. 20, 1920
It is now up to Grass Valley to do her part in an effort to establish a twenty-four hour electric service. Wasco and Moro have subscribed their quota being \$40,000 and Moro \$35,000 while the quota for Grass Valley is placed at \$23,000.

Miss Florence Bibby is now the bookkeeper at the P. N. Lemmon store.

Mrs. Carrie Oaks of Prineville, has been spending the week here with her sisters, Mrs. E. F. Remington, and Mrs. Frank French, and Mrs. Howard Coon, and friends, returning to her home Saturday.

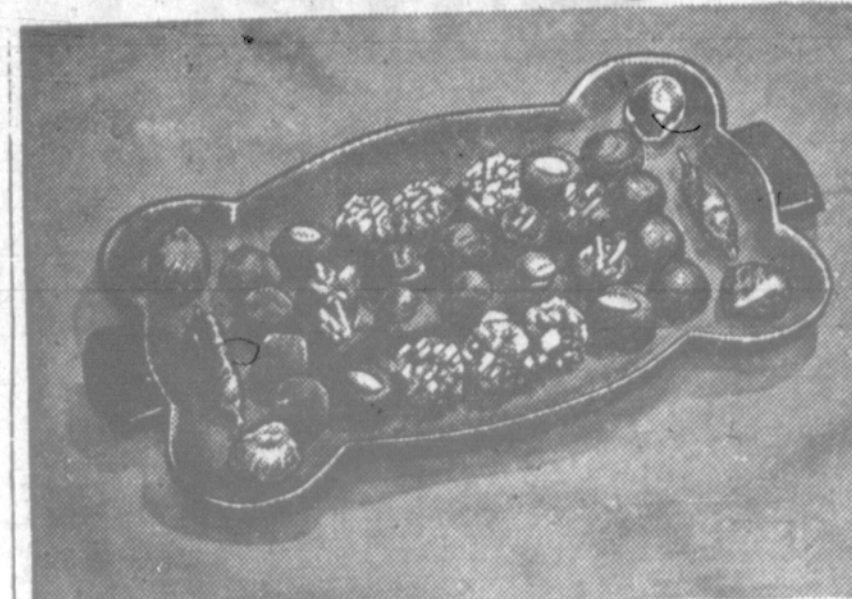
VICTOR G. PETERSON

REAL ESTATE

BANK HOTEL, THE DALLES

Spring Skirts in Gaberdine,
new Worsted. See Them.
Greta, The Dalles

Without Cooking!



Make fancy "French" Chocolates at home this quick, easy way.

"French" Chocolates, those rich super-impressive delicacies that sell from one to two dollars a pound at exclusive candy shops, can now be made at home—a whole pound-and-a-quarter for less than 70¢—and in less time, with less effort than it takes to fry an egg! The procedure is an adaption of a Quick Fudge recipe developed in the Test Kitchen of a famous manufacturer and is the very latest recipe in the semi-sweet chocolate cookery field (semi-sweet, you'll remember, is the new and different type of cookery which started with the famous Toll House Cookies)

For Creamy Fudge

Melt over hot water 2 packages of
Semi-Sweet Chocolate morsels
Add:
¾ c. sweetened condensed milk
1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. chopped nuts (optional)
Pour into waxed paper lined pan
and allow to cool for a few hours.
When firm cut into squares.
Yield: 1½ pounds.

For "French" Chocolates

Allow fudge to cool slightly in the pan. Then roll between the palms of the hands into small balls and dip into shredded coconut, chopped nuts, sweetened cocoa, candied fruit, almond slivers. For a very rich variation substitute rum for the vanilla.

If you wrap each small chocolate ball in gold or silver foil—put them in a gayly decorated box—you'll have a sumptuous gift that will look and taste like four dollars a pound!

And then it rains!

ONE of life's daily dramas is the weather. The weatherman studies the situation and says tomorrow will be fair and warmer. You read about it in the newspaper and plan a picnic. And then it rains!

The newspaper brings you the report of the fact of rain and the opinions of the forecaster, the ball game score and the crop estimate, the report of a fire and the statements of the President.

Some people would have it otherwise. They would have the newspaper print no opinion—except their own. They would like to limit what you read. They think the free exchange of ideas and opinions is dangerous. It is—to them.

Opinions are as much a part of the news as facts. The newspaper brings you all sorts of both in order to serve you better. Facts are valuable because they help you form your own opinions. When opponents debate an issue you are better equipped to decide who is right. By reading facts and opinions you get the knowledge that guides your decisions on how to shape your life, how to invest your money, how to vote—how to stay free.

Now you can read what you want and decide as you want. Your enemies do not want you to do that. As long as you do, they cannot control you. They don't want you to know and use your wits to make the right decisions about men and issues. To achieve their aims they would close off your access to the world of knowledge.

Because the newspaper is your main source of facts and opinions it is the first to be attacked. To control your mind—and you—there is a studied plan to control what you read in newspapers. The scheme is to invade and take away your right of a free press—not just the newspaper's—but yours!

The newspapers have no monopoly on a free press. It belongs to everyone. And it belongs to you even though you never write a letter because the right of a free press includes your right to read.

If you think your right to read freely is not in danger, read the proposals that are being offered, supposedly in your interest, by certain commissions and committees operating under lofty-sounding names and in some cases on public funds.

You may agree with some of their arguments. That is your right. But before you make up your mind, take a second look. Newspapers only head the list. Control of your sources of information means control of your opinion and, if the experience of the people under Hitler and Stalin tells anything, under such control you can expect someone, someday, rain or shine, to tell you when you may have a picnic.



Your right to know is the key to all your liberties