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Giles L. French Editor

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APRIL 21, 1950

TAX EXPERIMENT

For those who are interested in taxes, this week inaugurates an interesting experiment. An interim tax study committee is going about eastern Oregon, meeting with interested tax payers and tax leviers in several towns. The purpose is to acquaint people with the tax situation of Oregon, good and bad, and try to obtain some idea of what citizens think about it.

The meetings include a discussion of the present tax structure and possibility of deficit, brief statements of what the proposed school, veterans and welfare programs will cause in the way of new expenses and then some proposals about what might be done to equalize the tax burden over the state. There are no proposals for new taxes. So many proposals for new taxes have been defeated by use of the initiative that committee members are so far unwilling to spend time speculating on what sort of a tax would find popular favor.

There are members on the committee who would be pleased if the reaction to their information was that state expenditures should be cut and that opinion would be most valuable if there was agreement on what items

should be cut. If the people in The Dalles said schools, the people in Baker said welfare and the people of Burns said something else it would not indicate that any taxes could be reduced. It is historically true that taxes are not cut until people can no longer pay them. It is, however, probable that that condition has about been reached. Dropping farm income and unemployment (even for a few months) and the great numbers of young veterans who are indebted for homes and household equipment all indicate that the taxes may soon be too large for everyone to pay his share. It doesn't take many delinquent taxpayers to ruin a tax spending program.

So, the experiment in which the tax study committee is engaged is an interesting one. It may not be worth the effort. Oregon has a tax system rather hard to understand; there are many offsets in it, nearly all of which were designed to aid the property tax payer. Efforts to eliminate offsets most often place

him in jeopardy. This he does not realize because he has not had to pay a state property tax for ten years.

Many proposals to amend the state's tax laws are concerned with but one specific law. Yet it would often be necessary to amend many other laws in order to retain some semblance of balance in the tax structure.

The voters may not have the kind of a tax system they want, but it is one they have largely

made themselves. When it is changed it will be by vote of the people. Any information they may obtain from the meetings should be of value when that decision is to be made.

Officially sage rates were noticed in this county a few years ago when the federal government, through the CCC boys, decided to end their existence and did administer poison in sufficient quantities to reduce the number of the rodents hereabouts. The contest seemed grossly unfair. A government with power to go across the seas and battle Japs and Germans at the same time seemed poorly matched against a few peaceable sage rats—and the rats without concentrated vitamins, liver extract or a strong meat diet.

Years ago catching sage rats was an occupation that used up much of the time of small boys. They made a noose at the end of a sack string—where is the sack string—and looped it over the entrance to a sage rat hole and waited, attentively.

When the rat came out of the hole and hesitated briefly to view the surroundings and prepare for whatever danger might be present, the small boys jerked the string and had his rat. He could either keep it a squealing captive or swing it wildly onto the ground to immediate death. The decision depended on the humor and training of the boy.

Sage rats live on the edge of fields and later in the year they harvest and hoard as much of the ripened grain as may be necessary to provide food for the rats during the winter. Estimates of the damage run into the thousands of dollars, dollars being a strictly human method of comparing values. To the rat, no doubt, it seems that there is a plenty for all. And considering surplus the rat's idea seems the most factual.

Because it is spring, and because the young are as cute as are the young of any other animal it seems that a few words given to perpetuating the life of the sage rat would not be amiss. There are lots of ways of looking at him.

FEDERATED CLUBS TO MEET MAY 3

The spring meeting of the fourth district of Oregon Federation of Women's clubs will be held May 3 in the Masonic hall in Grass Valley.

EQUALIZATION BOARD

Meeting of the board of equalization for Sherman county. To the taxpayers of Sherman county, Oregon. Notice is hereby given that the Board of Equalization for Sherman county, Oregon, will attend at the County Court Room of the Sherman county Court House, State of Oregon, on the second Monday of May, or May 8, 1950 and publicly examine the assessment rolls, description or qualities of lands, lots or other property assessed by such assessor; and it shall be the duty of persons interested to appear at the time and place appointed. Each petition or application for the reduction of a particular assessment shall be made in writing verified by the oath of the applicant or his attorney, and shall be filed with the board within the first week it is by law required to be in session; and any petition or application not so made, verified and filed shall not be considered or acted upon by the board. Each such petition or application shall state thereon the address to which notice of the action of the board of equalization shall be sent.

Marie Hoskinson  
Sherman County Assessor  
25-27c

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 118  
Meets 2nd and 4th  
Tuesdays of each  
month. Visiting  
members welcome.  
Helen Kruger, N. G.  
Lucille May, Sec.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M.  
Meets on the 1st and  
3rd Thursday evenings  
each month. Visiting  
members cordially in-  
vited to meet with us.  
C. S. Bennett, W. M.  
H. B. Pinkerton, 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.

Marvin Howell, N. G.  
Leo Watkins, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78. O.E.S.  
Meets every second and  
fourth Thursday in each  
month; visiting members  
invited. Moro, Oregon.

Olive Young, W. M.  
Naomi Van Gilder, Secretary

NOTICE OF 1950-51 BUDGET MEETING

In accordance with the provisions of the "Local Budget Law" (Sections 110-1201 to 110-1215, O. C. L. A.), notice is hereby given that the budget committee of Moro, Oregon, in compliance with said law, prepared and adopted April 4, 1950, the budget estimates for Moro, Oregon, for the ensuing fiscal year July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951, as set forth in the accompanying schedules I, II, III, and IV. All persons are hereby notified that on Tuesday the 9th day of May, 1950, at 8:00 p. m. in Moro, Oregon, said budget estimates may be discussed with the Council, the levying board for Moro, Oregon, and any person subject to the proposed tax levy or tax levies will be heard in favor of or against said proposed tax levy or tax levies in any part thereof.

The outstanding indebtedness of Moro, Oregon, at April 1, 1950, was as follows: \$7,500.00.

Signed: Clyde Gillmor, Chairman, Budget Committee; Michael Mulick, Secretary Budget Committee; John Parker, G. Douma, Darwin Van Gilder; Harry Kunsman, Vernon Flatt, John Foss, Members Budget Committee.

Sch. I SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES, RECEIPTS, LEVIES FISCAL YEAR 1950-51

1950-1951	Total of All Funds
TAX LEVY CALCULATION	\$ 6041.40
Total Estimated Expenditures	6041.40
Total Estimated Expenditures - Reserves & Transfers	5515.22
Estimated Receipts & Cash	528.18
Tmount to Balance the Budget	528.18
Total levies needed for 1950-51	528.18
Tax levies inside 6% limit	none
Tax levies outside 6% limit	none

Sch. II SUMMARY ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES, RECEIPTS, LEVIES FISCAL YEAR 1949-50

1949-1950	Total of All Funds
TAX LEVY CALCULATION	\$ 6541.41
Total Estimated Expenditures	6541.40
Total Estimated Expenditures - Reserves and Transfers	6541.40
Estimated Receipts & Cash	6045.00
Total levies needed for 1949-50	496.40
Amount to Balance Budget	496.40
Tax levies inside 6% limit	496.40
Tax levies outside 6% limit	none

SCHEDULE III

Actual for 7-1-47 to 7-1-48	Actual for 7-1-48 to 7-1-49	Actual for Six Months	Budget 1949-50	EXPENDITURES FUND & CLASSIFICATION	Budget 1950-51
\$ 145.00	\$ 4.68	\$ 131.55	\$ 281.23	GENERAL FUND	
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	Treas. & Recorder Salaries	\$ 360.00
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	State Industrial Accident Administration	75.00
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	Administration	150.00
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$ 585.00
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	WATER FUND	
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	Marshal & Collector Salary	2400.00
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	Water, Labor Account	300.00
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	Water Supplies Account	500.00
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	Water Power Account	750.00
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	Fire Department	200.00
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	TOTAL WATERED FUND	\$ 4150.00
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	MISCELLANEOUS	
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	Emergency	200.00
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	Power, Street Light Acc't	806.40
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	Old Legion Hall	300.00
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	Streets, Walks & Sewers	300.00
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 1306.40
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	DEBT SERVICE	
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	Interest on Bonds	280.25
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	Principal on Bonds	1000.00
\$ 484.25	\$ 4026.08	\$ 1090.77	\$ 484.25	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$ 1280.25
\$ 265.60	\$ 65.17	\$ 171.44	\$ 5631.87	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 7521.65

SCHEDULE IV

Actual for 7-1-47 to 7-1-48	Actual for 7-1-48 to 7-1-49	Actual for Six Months	Budget 1949-50	RECEIPTS	Budget 1950-51
\$ 203.13	\$ 45.00	\$ 2957.65	\$ 203.13	State Liquor Apportionment	\$ 200.00
\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 45.00	Licenses & Fees	50.00
\$ 2957.65	\$ 4123.16	\$ 60.00	\$ 2957.65	Water Rents	4000.00
\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 45.00	Legion Hall Rents	60.00
\$ 2957.65	\$ 4123.16	\$ 60.00	\$ 2957.65	Rent of Property	100.00
\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 45.00	Sidewalk Collection	200.00
\$ 2957.65	\$ 4123.16	\$ 60.00	\$ 2957.65	PP&L Franchise	300.00
\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 45.00	County Road Tax	300.00
\$ 2957.65	\$ 4123.16	\$ 60.00	\$ 2957.65	Miscellaneous Revenue	300.00
\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 45.00	TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 5270.00

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Wasco, Phone 552

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Friday, April 28 8 p. m.

GENERAL ADMISSION .50 TICKETS ON SALE  
RESERVED SEATS .85 BLUMS—MORO  
CHILDREN .25 ALLEY'S—GRASS VALLEY

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