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BUSINESS TAX
The business tax bill has finally been written and introduced into the house. It is a good bill, carefully written and while it does not carry repeal of the personal property tax it is because it is impossible to include both ideas in one bill.

Weakness of the bill is the method of distributing the tax back to the counties. It may prove to be a fatal weakness for almost no one likes the method used and are unable to devise a better one. The bill would return the funds obtained from the business tax back to the counties in the proportion each county had from personal property taxes in the last three years. It is not a method that could be used for long because the basis for it would change and it would be inaccurate.

Some tax minded persons, including the tax committee of the Portland chamber of commerce, have evolved another variation of a business tax. By this formula there would be a corporation tax of four or five percent, and a business tax of three or four percent. The business tax would apply to all business corporate and otherwise and it would be off-settable. That is, persons owning personal property could off-set the business tax with personal property tax receipts. This would give the owner of personal property a chance to reduce his taxes in a manner somewhat like the personal property tax repeal. Business men with little or no personal tax would pay and the tax base would be broadened thereby.

It is still an idea although one of acknowledged value. Oregon's corporation tax is not a very good one being overloaded with exemptions and being high enough to prevent some desirable firms from coming to Oregon. It can be improved and perhaps some method such as the above or a variation of it can be made acceptable to a majority.

CHANCES FOR ECONOMY
It is the contention of the writer—and it is well known—that the people are paying for more government than they want. Comment on state government (to say nothing of national) runs to acridulous expressions about the number of inspectors, the number of automobiles seen in a given area in a given time, the marble palaces in which the markedly lackadaisical employees spend their time, the excess of boards and commissions. The comment is not complimentary.

As a matter of record the people have done a bit of careless voting which has aided the lack of economy. Within a few years the people have voted some \$75,000,000 without proposing a single dime with which to pay the bill. Advocate told unwary people that it would come out of the "surplus" which must have been in the minds of the ordinary voter something like the widow's cruse, always full.

The discovery that the surplus was manmade and not of divine origin and therefore finite and expendable has not occurred to many until this meeting of the legislature. Now it is not only ex-

Thought for today...

"The Freedom and Happiness of man are the sole objects of all legitimate governments."

For moderate refreshment...

Light OLYMPIA "It's the Water"

Olympia Brewing Co., Olympia, Wash., U.S.A. *B

THE AMERICAN WAY



Wouldn't That P... Dandy!

Deer-Elk Range Land Leased By Commission

The Oregon game commission has signed a 22-year lease for 4,838 acres of deer and elk winter range land in southeast Umatilla county with the Pilot Rock lumber company.

Located in the brakes of the north fork of the John Day river, the range is classed as a major wintering ground for mule deer. Constant over grazing by big

pendable, but expended. Appropriations have eaten it up and along with it a probable property tax although some steps are being taken to prevent the latter.

Can there be economy when there is no bank account on which to draw; will the removal of the property tax as a guarantor of state expenses stop the natural urge to buy—and build—expand and expend? We think there will be some pains in the process and a long struggle between those who pay and those who get. Even in this state with its well distributed incomes few persons pay as much into the state as they receive. With education at around \$300 per pupil per year how many men pay taxes sufficient to educate one child? And when the benefits of police protection, highways, pensions, are added there are few indeed who actually pay their way.

How can you get economy when so few pay for the cost of government? Actually the ordinary man cannot pay for his share of government.

He doesn't earn enough. Then certainly the cost of government should be cut back to a point where the average citizen could pay his part, where it does not rest upon the rich. Because if government is to be something given—through taxes—to the poor by the rich there will be little of democracy anon.

He served in World War II and was among the first to go over the Stanley mountains in New Guinea. After the war he owned the Ocean Crest Apartments in DeLake, but sold this business to go to Korea.

The motto which hung over his desk was: While we live let's live in clover, for when we die we die all over.



NEVADA GOVERNOR GIVES BLOOD... First in line to give blood when a mobile blood car, the Charles O. Sweetwood, rolled into Reno was Nevada's governor, Charles H. Russell. The governor's blood is being taken here by Red Cross Nurse Rosemary Bulch of Portland, Ore. The railroad car is covering Utah, California and Nevada, receiving blood and gifts for American soldiers fighting in Korea.

Farm Workers Now Covered By Social Security

Many farm workers in Sherman county are covered by the federal social security program, starting January 1, 1951.

In the past, agricultural work has not been covered by social security. The decision of congress to bring about 800,000 farm workers under the old-age and survivors insurance plan was one of the major changes in the social security law in August.

Temporary and seasonal farm workers will, in general, continue to be exempt from social security. Thus, a farmer will not have to report the earnings of his berry pickers and other temporary help.

Regularly employed farm workers, though, will get the same social security protection that employees in business and industry have.

To come under social security, a farm worker must first establish a "service relationship" by working continuously for one farm operator for a period of three months. That period can be the last three months of 1950.

After the "warm-up" period, the farm employee will be covered by social security if he continues to work for the same farmer at least 60 days out of every three months, provided he earns cash wages of at least \$50 during the three months.

Miss Lorraine Millard of Rufus is now employed at the Sherman County Branch of the First National Bank here in Moro.

Mr. and Mrs. John Parker motored to Grandview, Wn., Sunday to spend the day with Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Craig.

FINAL CALL MADE FOR EASTER SEAL DONATIONS

County leaders for the annual Easter seal sale of the Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults today made a final appeal to the hundreds of persons in the county who have not yet responded to the Easter Seals they received.

Although the seal sale was formally ended Easter Sunday, the leaders expressed hope that returns will continue to come into county headquarters for another few weeks.

The Society's principal project at the present time is the hospital school for crippled children in Eugene, where youngsters from over 20 Oregon counties are receiving special education and treatment.

New Book Published On Sheep Country By Western Author

Ray Palmer Tracy, a one-time resident of this region, has written Fighting Sheepman, an adventure novel which deals with the sheep business in the Pacific Northwest. Stockman, mine operator, prospector, and forest ranger, Tracy is widely known from border to border west of the Mississippi. For a long time he was a partner of Kirk & Tracy, oil well contractors. At the age of 15 he enjoyed a short term as postmaster of Manton, Cal. The head of the combination store and post office, about all there was to Manton at that time, asked Tracy to watch his store for "a spell" while he went to look after his cattle. Tracy says he was sworn in as postmaster, "so if I ran off with the mail it

would be a government thing."

When Ray Tracy's father arrived 15 minutes later he was running the town of Manton, and this same spirit has involved him in enterprises in almost all of the western states.

Fighting Sheepman was published by Little, Brown & Company on March 15.

A group of Rufus women are sponsoring a bridal shower in honor of Miss Darlene Smith at the Rufus grange hall on Friday, Apr. 6 at 2 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Don DeMoss were hosts April 1 at a potluck dinner at their Hood River home in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John DeMoss who had just returned from a winter spent in Arizona and California. Those present from Moro were Mr. and Mrs. Curley DeMoss and children, Mr. and Mrs. George DeMoss and daughters, Tommy and Alleen DeMoss, Wilbur Platt and Max Saxton. John returned by plane Sunday with Curley, landing at the A. B. Christianson and Mac Hall homes.

GIVING YOUR HOME A BEAUTY TREATMENT THIS SPRING?

...See First National for Financing

If your home improvement plans require financing aid, see First National Our Home Improvement Loan plan requires no mortgage, provides for liberal repayment terms. See First National first.

"LET'S BUILD OREGON TOGETHER!"

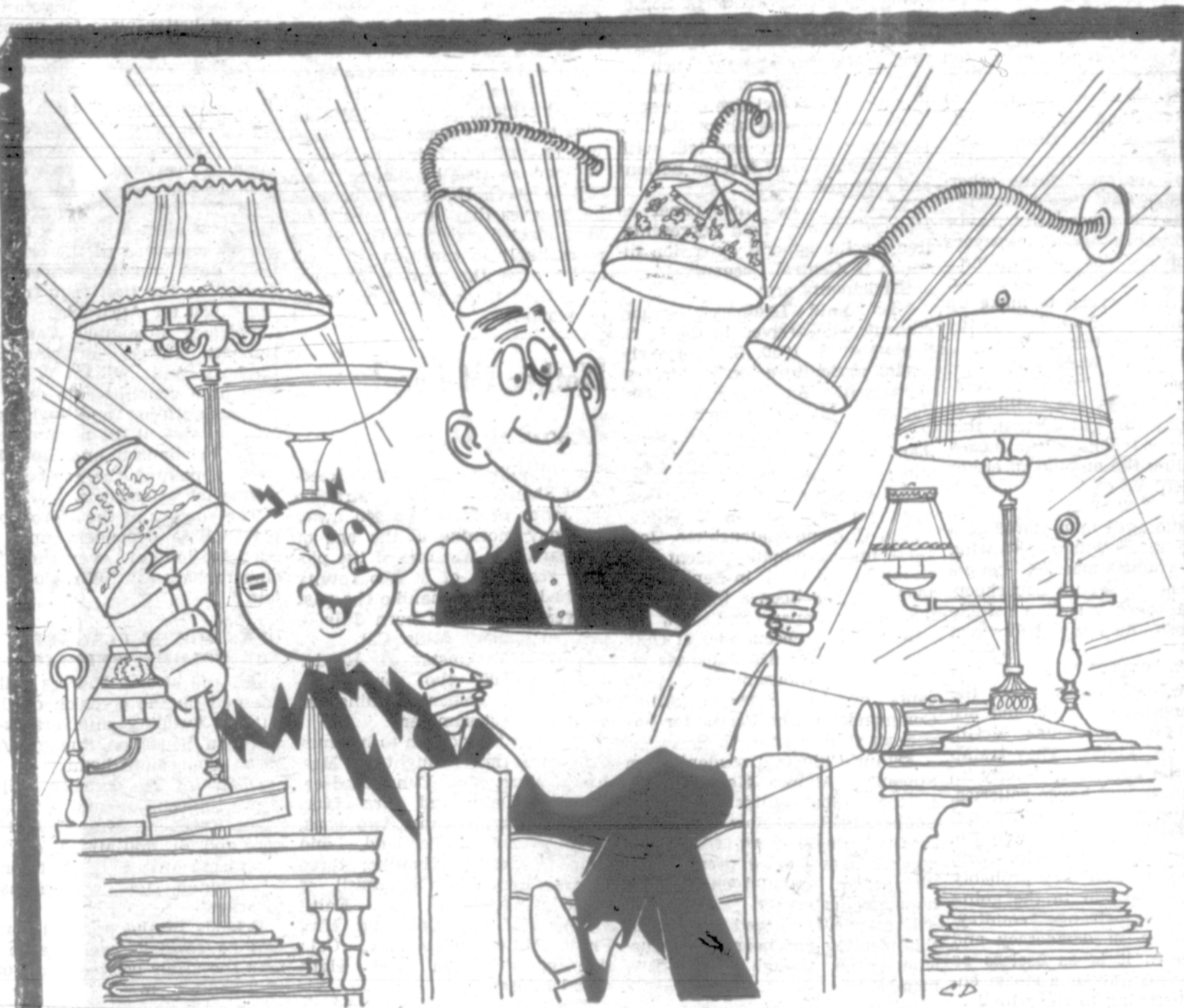
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To a man who likes lights



"It's not that I'm blinder," said Algernon Sites, "Of late I just seem to enjoy lots of lights!"

"I'm so much more cheerful with lights in my life It's noticed by even my children and wife.

"What's more, I'm resolved that in this residence These lights will stay on—and to heck with expense!"

At this chance remark, Reddy Kilowatt ran To bring home some facts to this misguided man.

He said: "Mr. Sites, you'll be happy to know Pacific Power rates are really quite low.

"So turn on your lights, and relax when you do. The difference in cost? Just a penny or two!"

PP&L electric rates are low! Yes, in spite of rising costs of almost everything else you buy, the average price paid for Reddy Kilowatt's services is 40% lower than in 1940. During the same period, other costs of living have gone up more than 80%.

PP&L rate cuts since 1940 have meant total net savings to customers of more than 18 million dollars. No wonder people here say: "Electric service is the biggest bargain in the budget!"

PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT