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Giles L. French Editor
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OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER

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TAX PROGRAM

The probable tax program that will come out of the legislature is taking shape.

It includes a referral of its important tax raising bills to the people to assure a referral that would not be voted on until November 1956. The legislature is not passing the buck to the voters as much as it is making certain that there will be little delay in putting the bills into law so money for state purposes will be assured.

The program consists of so optimistic estimates of increased budget receipts of \$6,500,000 and a reduction of budget estimates by the way and means committee, neither of which are assured. It includes a larger tax on insurance premiums, a higher markup on liquor, a corporate tax on utilities for \$7,700,000.

Major items and probably the only ones to be referred will be the cigarette tax, estimated at \$10,000,000 and a higher income tax, estimated at around \$25,000,000, partly from lower exemptions and partly from surtax. There have been threats that both will be referred by others if the legislature does not do it on its own accord.

It is yet possible that a sales tax will be referred also so that the people may have a larger choice, but this is not certain. It is difficult to see how an election can be put off past July 15 without the mandatory imposition of a six mill property tax but the legislature may be able to evade that one by passing emergency legislation.

The choice of the voters will be to accept the cigarette tax and the higher income tax (which will be a whopper) or to defeat them. While the campaign is on the school forces will be chattering in the PTAs, the higher education people will be speaking in self-glorification, state officials will talk about the necessity of bigger government until the voters may be overwhelmed.

Then again, they may not. The alternative to passing the two tax measures will be a special session of the legislature next fall. And it seems that such a session would have to feel that it had a mandate to cut some of the state expenditures. A cut of around \$50,000,000 will be required to get within estimate receipts. That will mean reduced basic school funds, reduced higher education, eliminating some service budgets entirely, stricter welfare rolls.

Oregon citizens have been getting by for years by using a surplus. They have been able to vote for new things without getting a bill. That time is ended. Now they will have to pay for what they get and because they have been living rather high the payments are high.

It will be one of the most interesting elections in years.

MR. SCHULER SAYS

Mr. John W. Shuler is from South Carolina and is a courtly southern gentleman of the old school. He is an attorney in Portland who by grace of circumstances has come to be the man who must pass on all bond issues in the state. The reason for this is that bond firms respect his judgment and will not buy bonds unless he passes upon their constitutionality and legality.

Mr. Shuler is very careful to retain so useful a reputation. The result is that bond issues must be letter perfect in preparation, strictly legal in background and constitutional in all aspects. There can be no objection to any of this and bond buyers, the men who furnish the money for build-

ings and improvements, are very happy to have so careful a man passing on the bonds they buy.

The reason for this short discourse on Mr. Shuler is that the proposed union high school district is having its troubles with Mr. Shuler. Every provision of the Union High School law as regards organization has been met, every "I" dotted, every comma well placed.

The Union High School law has been in effect since 1907 with some changes in the last 48 years and undoubtedly nearly every Union High district has been formed under it. As everyone in the Kent, Grass Valley and Moro district now knows it requires a vote of the host district, and petitions from joining districts. There is provision for remonstrances by any disgruntled persons. If none is made the district is formed.

Now comes Mr. Shuler and says that although that is the law it is not enough and that an election must be held anyway. This means that someone must sign a remonstrance whether he wants to remonstrate or not so there can be an election. Thus Mr. Shuler goes beyond the law and leans on the constitution or on his interpretation of the constitution.

Mr. Shuler's position is that there should be positive action by the people to form a new governmental organization and that the present Union High School law provides for negative action. He insists that mere acceptance of a new district is not enough. There must be active support thereof. He is certainly wrong legally, may be wrong constitutionally, but it is entirely correct philosophically.

Certainly such a law should be changed so that when a district follows it, it is legal enough that it can sell bonds. That may be done by the legislature if there is yet time. It will not change the status of the local district.

The situation leads to some odd thoughts—a lawyer who makes his own law; a well used law found wanting in its old age; a return, perhaps, to necessary voting, to dependence on people instead of on law and government.

MOTHER NATURE

Last week in this column the editor said he was going to plant a radish seed if he had to do it with a pick. It seemed time that someone with garden in mind took a strong stand with Mother Nature who had been delaying the usual spring garden season by what appeared to be a sad case of feminine frigidity.

Sunday was a reasonably good day for early April and out there in the garden in the warm sun and cold wind we got to thinking about how the manifestations of the earth, the burgeoning of plant and animal life in the spring, the heat of summer and the delightful days of maturity, to say nothing of the chill of winter, are referred to as Mother Nature.

And we thought how Mother Nature gracefully evaded the threatened conflict that would have resulted in a seed being sown with a pick, and had in effect acquiesced in our masculine demands that the earth be reasonably tillable on that certain Sunday. It then occurred that there was an excellent reason why Nature is called Mother Nature; she is so feminine.

The radish seeds placed in the ground upon our rather preemptory demand are still in the care

of Mother Nature who has sole jurisdiction over them, whether they grow or die. More man is used to being treated thus. He may bully his wife with an order for dinner at six o'clock prompt and find it consisting of a crust and a bit of soup; he may storm and bluster and have the family decision go against him for all his show of authority. Often masculinity makes the orders and femininity makes the decisions. The feminine art is in making him like it. On that score it does seem that Mother Nature is not doing too well this spring, but we are sure she'll get around to it before long.

Passage of SB 408 will change county school organization to a marked degree. It is thought to have a good chance of approval. It does away with the rural school board and permits a county tax levy of a fixed amount per child with the district being responsible for the remainder of the costs.

Grass Valley Church Starts Meetings

The Grass Valley Baptist church is planning a big day on Easter Sunday. The first activity will be the Sunday school program at 9:45 a. m. In this program the high school pupils will furnish some special music and read the Scripture, the little folks will give recitations and sing and juniors and intermediates are going to dramatize the Easter story.

In the 11:00 service the choir will sing several Easter numbers, the male quartet will sing, Everett Cantrill will play "The Lord's Prayer" on his trumpet, and we will have solos by Don Earl and Mrs. Beverly Shaw. The pastor, Don Leach, will bring a short Easter message to conclude the morning's activities.

That evening the adult fellowship will meet to discuss the subject of "Victorious Living" at 7:00.

In the evening worship the church will begin a week of missionary conferences to be held at 8 p. m. every night, except Monday and Saturday. The first speaker will be Miss Evelyn Varney from Japan. Tuesday the speaker will be Ralph Gorsline from Brazil. Wednesday night Roland Heffner who plans to go to India, Thursday night will feature Mr. and Mrs. Russel Smith who are working amongst the colored people of Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Lum from Chinatown of San Francisco will be speaking and singing on Friday. Sunday the conference will be closed by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hankins who are planning to go to Australia. Mrs. Hankins was once engaged in musical work with George Beverly Shea.

A free-will offering will be received each evening to defray the expenses of the missionaries.

BASEBALL FRIDAY, APRIL 8 Grass Valley Diamond Moro vs. Dufur Adm. 35 cents

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Umatilla Bridge To Be Opened April 15

The Inland Empire spotlight falls on this Oregon city Friday, April 15, when Governors Paul L. Patterson of Oregon and Arthur B. Langlie of Washington will attend dedication ceremonies of the new Columbia river bridge here at Umatilla. The dedication program will start at 11 a. m. and will highlight a full day of activity.

The late William H. Switzer, life-time pioneer of Umatilla county, will be honored at the dedication. The bridge is dedicated to his memory and to the "wellfare of the future generations who will benefit from its use."

McNary dam will be available to Washington residents who plan to drive across the Columbia river for the dedication. It will open at 8 a. m. for southbound traffic and residents from the north will be able to cross throughout the day until 4 p. m.

Construction money for the bridge, came from the sale of bonds. The bridge will be paid for in about 27 years from tolls and then will be turned over to the highway department of Washington and Oregon and will become a free thoroughfare.

The bridge is over a half mile long, 3380 feet, from its base in Washington to Oregon. The concrete deck, crossing the river, is 1320 feet. Tudor Engineering Co. of San Francisco is the consulting engineers for the structure. It took a little over eight months to complete the work.

Bethlehem Chapter No. 73. O.E.S.
Meets every second and fourth Thursday in each month; visiting members invited. Moro, Oregon
Catherine Thompson, W. M.
Naomi Van Gilder, Secretary

Kureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M.
Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us.
Frank Sayrs, W. M.
Clyde Gillmor, Secretary

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116
Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome.
Vada DeMoss, N. G.
Jo Gentry, Sec.

Moro Lodge No. 113 I.O.O.F.
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WASCO ITEMS

Sunday visitors of Mrs. Oral Gosson was her family Mr. and Mrs. Loyal Pratt and baby Steven Eugene, who arrived Saturday evening from The Dalles, Mr. and Mrs. Llyod Gosson and children Gregory and Gayle and Mr. and Mrs. Earle Morrison and children Kathie and Allan.

Carl Tuggle and Arthur Sargent went to Salem Monday to pick up the windows for the addition to the church.

Recently Mrs. Vleda Van Gaasbeck was surprised with a visit by a cousin and her son Mrs. John Chapman and Rodger of Clamo. This is their first visit in a number of years.

Rev. and Mrs. Bruner took their small son to Portland where he has been receiving medical attention.

Mrs. Velda Van Gaasbeck spent a recent weekend in Portland with her sister Mrs. Vera Marshall. Also a week at Hood River visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ed McKee.

WANT ADS

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NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman county, his Final Account as Executor of the estate of Herman H. Nichols, deceased; that Monday, the 2nd day of May, 1955, at ten o'clock a. m. of said day in the court room of the County Court in Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, have been fixed by the Court as the time and place for hearing objections to said Final Account and for settlement of said estate.

Wesley E. Nichols
Executor
Brown & Van Vactor and T. Lester Johnson
Attorneys for Executor 22-5c

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the Estate of T. J. Coyle, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, with the proper vouchers and duly verified, to the undersigned, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Executors under the Last Will and Testament of T. J. Coyle, deceased, at the office of T. Lester Johnson, attorney at law, Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: March 25, 1955.

Harold D. Eakin
Norris Gillkison
Executors

T. Lester Johnson
Attorney for Executors
Moro, Oregon 21-4c

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the estate of Jerry M. Wilson, also known as J. M. Wilson, deceased, are required to present them with vouchers to the undersigned at Kent, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. The date of the first publication of this notice is March 18, 1955.

LEATITIA WILSON
Executrix

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Attorneys for the Estate 20-3c

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