

Sherman County Journal  
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL  
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OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER

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APRIL 22, 1953

THE TAX PROBLEM

Around the legislature it is said that members are just now coming to realize the immensity of the tax problem. Up until now they have been hoping that a rabbit would jump out of the hat and solve it all. That's the way it was done when the state had a surplus.

There is a suspicion that whatever tax program is sent to the people will be defeated and the legislature will have to return for some delayed budget cutting. There's hope that the people may accept some program without an initiative being filed against it but it is also felt that this is mere wishful thinking.

There are several ways to increase the income tax that would produce the required sum of money. Lowered exemptions, elimination of the federal offset, a universal income tax, a heavy surtax. Almost any combination of these would bring in enough money to balance a budget this year.

A large part of the money will have to come from average taxpayers for the simple reason that there are not enough over-average taxpayers. In addition a little can be raised here and there for temporary aid. Cigarettes will raise some but no one has so far thought of a good reason why cigarette smokers should pay the bill and it would probably be defeated. The same thing is probably true of a big income tax boost.

There is some toying with the idea of a sales tax and one has been written that perpetrates the age old error of baiting the hook too apparently. There is something for the property taxpayer, a small treat for the income taxpayer, a morsel for the school teachers until the bill looks like a cherry bobber painted with luminous paint. Well, you never know, fish are caught with cherry bobbers.

It is our hope that the net result will be more economy in state management, not that it has been extravagant but similar to that of a family living on the returns of grandpa's will. We have actually been getting too much government, more than too expensive government. If this means that there shall be a return of some expenses to local governments we will like that, too. It will be done cheaper and better.

NEW EDUCATION BOARD BILL

School superintendents of Oregon have prepared a bill that, if passed, will do away with the rural school board and substitute therefor a county educational board.

This new board will have power to appoint the school superintendent and fix his salary, perform such duties and services as the needs of the county educational district require, appoint other needed personnel, make rules for administration consistent with the rules of the state office, prepare an annual budget and levy taxes, make an annual written report.

It may establish a center for cooperative purchasing, hold an annual convention, provide educational services to local districts that cannot be provided by them.

The board will raise money on a county basis and first pay the county superintendent. It will divide the money on a per pupil basis except that in an emergency it may give additional funds up to \$14,000 per school room to districts unable to get along on the regular funds.

Purpose of the bill, apparently, is to change the rural school board so that that board will not have to approve local budgets. It will make a payment to local districts and thus relieve local districts from that much taxes.

The board does not have more than supervisory power over education in any district and has no control over local district finances. No specific percentage of county school costs is stated in the bill.

The bill does tie county superintendents more closely to the state superintendent's office. County superintendents have other duties

than those enumerated and it seems that this was an opportunity to put them all together or to mention the others as herein included but that may not be important so long as some one knows where to find them.

As a bill it is a poor one, rambling and hard to read. It could be shortened by a third by appropriate references and we think that any education committee would be wise to have the code commissioner rewrite it before passage.

As to its intent it seems a good step. The rural school law was written to be a step toward a better county school organization and toward some equalization of taxes. It was not proposed as an end in itself. It was amended in the first session after approval by the voters until it was never as effective as it could have been if let alone.

The present superintendent's bill may be an improvement. It could make the work of the county board and the superintendent easier. Some equalization of taxes may be lost.

A good committee could strengthen the bill greatly. As it is, it is but a short and tentative step forward.

DANGER OF ATTACK

The politicians are making as much as possible over the administration's secrecy over what might happen if the Chinese Reds were to attack Quemoy and Matsu, a pair of small islands, off the mainland of China.

In this connection we cannot but deplore the lack of experience in poker playing and horse trading, two masculine accomplishments that were apparently better understood in earlier generations. It is our opinion that President Eisenhower shows a knowledge of both arts.

Suppose that Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Morse and other partisan commentators on the subject were to cause the president to say exactly what he would do toward defending the two islands. That would make it very easy for the Chinese Reds. As it is the president can finger his chips and peek at his hole card optimistically and keep his opponents in doubt—and an opponent in doubt may decide to keep his chips and let the pot go by default.

Certainly if we are going to remain a decisive force in the Pacific, or even an active one, we are going to have to stop the Chinese Reds sometime. We cannot go on retreating island by island and nation by nation. It is also certain that President Eisenhower, being a military man knows more about where to make his stand than do the politicians whose abilities run more to evading positive stands rather than taking them.

HOW NOT TO GOVERN

The senate education committee has reported out by a 4 to 3 vote a bill that would eventually take more money from the counties that now pay in more than they receive from the basic school fund and give it to the counties that pay less than they receive.

It was opposed by the "have not" counties through their representatives.

We don't know how long this sort of thing can go on but we are tremendously interested in it, not only from a financial standpoint but as one who must observe trends of government.

If those who have material things are to be constantly plucked by legislative process by those who have less we would gladly dispense with the legislative process. We prefer to be plucked directly by a bandit with a bandana over his face and a gun in his hand. We can eventually catch him and string him to a tree.

Being over-taxed through the legislature is worse because there is no recourse for political minorities.

Lapine 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. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited. John Shipley, N. G. Leo Watkins, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter No. 3, O.E.S. fourth Thursday in each month; visiting members invited. Moro, Oregon. Catherine Thompson, W. M. Naomi Van Gilder, Secretary

Eureka 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 Sayers, W. M. Clyde Gillmor, Secretary

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Neither does it help to have such laws passed with the saintly smugness of reformers who pick our pockets in the name of little children—as if we had none of our own.

We know it has been a recent tendency—to tax the rich to buy the votes of the poor. We also know that unless it is stopped there will be no rich and the poor, in their greed, will destroy the government that fed them. No stable government can be made from those who are unable or unwilling to provide for themselves.

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MORO BEAUTY SHOP  
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PHONE 512

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St. Mary's vs. Moro  
FRIDAY, APRIL 22  
1 p.m. instead of 2 p.m.

WANT ADS  
FOR SALE: Modern six room house in Moro. For information write Charles Schulenburg, 980 Rice, St. Paul 3, Minn. 24-25c

WELL DRILLING: Stock, domestic or irrigation. W. J. Rodda, Ph 601 Moro, E. E. Shull Ph 470, Wasco. 23-6p

Dr. Otis G. Perkins  
Optometrist  
405 E. 2nd St.  
(Across from Stadleman-Bonn Hardware)  
Phone 5362 The Dalles, Ore.

FOR SALE: Alta Fescue seed cleaned with 30% Rye Grass. Excellent dry land or irrigated pasture. 20c lb. Ted M. Ball, Phone 2294, Wamic, Ore. 24-7c

FOR SALE: 6 room home, 3 bedrooms, full cement basement, automatic heat, fully insulated. Can be seen at any time. For further information contact Verne Arstall, Athena, Oregon, Phone 2212.

BUSINESS Opportunity: Union Station for lease. Small investment required for inventory. Harold Owens, ph 442 day or 572 evenings, Grass Valley, Ore.

WANTED: Housework \$1.00 pr. hr. Phone 669, Grass Valley, evenings or write Mrs. W. R. McFarland, Kent. 24p

GEORGE CHARLES CAMPBELL Call father's home collect Edmonds, Wash., important 23-5c

STATE WIDE PAINT CO. complete painting and decorating service, spray or brush. Phone 3977 or 5293, 1205 E. 12th St. Vern Campbell and Jack Null, The Dalles, Oregon 38ftn

MAY ELECTRIC, electrical contracting, Moro, Oregon, Phone 722. 19 ftn

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Booming business makes opening available for responsible man or woman with car to call on farm women in Sherman County. Full or spare time. Opportunity to make up to \$40 a day. White McNeess Company, P. O. Box 14, Bayshore Station, Oakland 23, Calif. 25-6p

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NOTICE OF SCHOOL ELECTION IN THE RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON, UPON QUESTION OF INCREASING TAX LEVY OVER AMOUNT LIMITED BY SECTION II, ARTICLE XI, STATE CONSTITUTION

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held Monday, May 16, 1953, by the Rural School District of Sherman County, State of Oregon, in all component school districts of said Rural School District.

The election will begin at 2:00 p.m. and will be held in the school house in each of said component districts. The purpose of the election is to submit to the legal voters of the rural school district the question of increasing the tax levy for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, over the amount limited by Section II, Article XI of the Constitution.

The reasons for increasing such levy are:  
The Rural School District base is too low to permit the raising of sufficient funds for operating the schools.

The amount of tax, in excess of the six per cent limitation proposed to be levied by the Rural School District of Sherman County, Oregon, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, is \$168,793.78.

Dated this 13th day of April, 1953.  
Attest  
Charles Burnett  
Chairman, Rural School Board  
Wily W. Knighten  
Secretary, Rural School Board

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION  
Notice of meeting of the County Board of Equalization for Sherman County, Oregon:  
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 Assessor's office of the Sherman County Court House, Moro, State of Oregon, on the second Monday of May, or May 9, 1953, and publicly examine the assessment rolls, correct all errors in valuation, 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

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, 1953, 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

WILLIAM HARRY RAGSDALE  
JOHN L. SEARCY  
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BUSH & BRADLEY  
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Statement of Condition  
APRIL 11, 1953  
THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL BANK  
of Portland

RESOURCES	
Cash on Hand and Due from Banks	\$158,348,622.15
United States Government Bonds	287,302,756.37
Municipal and Other Bonds	72,944,505.56
Loans and Discounts—Net	277,849,699.77
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	1,080,000.00
Bank Premises (Including Branches)	8,518,992.90
Customers' Liability on Acceptances	312,916.24
Interest Earned	2,501,680.39
Other Resources	966,698.49
	<b>\$809,825,871.87</b>

LIABILITIES	
Capital	\$ 18,000,000.00
Surplus	18,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	18,211,125.79
	<b>54,211,125.79</b>
Reserves for Interest, Taxes, etc.	4,396,403.82
Acceptances	312,916.24
Dividends Declared	585,000.00
Deposits	746,670,830.97
Interest Collected Not Earned	3,627,165.86
Other Liabilities	22,429.19
	<b>\$809,825,871.87</b>

This Statement Includes 39 Branches in Oregon  
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THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL BANK OF PORTLAND  
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