

Sherman County Journal
Published Every Friday at
Moro, Oregon

Giles L. French Editor

Entered as second class matter at the Postoffice at Moro, Oregon, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
ONE YEAR \$2.00
JANUARY 27, 1956

THE FREE AND THE SLAVES

In Oregon as citizens work on their federal income tax returns, and look contemplatively at their state income tax figures there is great resentment at the huge increase in the latter—or so we are informed.

This resentment is not confined to those old objectors to taxes in any form and any amount. Even those who consider—and perhaps justly—that taxes are a small payment on what they receive from government, are howling at an increase of 45 percent in state income taxes which is much greater for small taxpayers because of the reduction in personal exemption.

Before 1933 Americans looked upon taxes as an unwilling tribute to government, a minor irritation to which only the rich or well-to-do were subject. And that was pretty well correct. Frankly, that was first, was elected in part because he promised to cut federal taxes 25 percent. What actually happened was that the theorists and practical politicians discovered that it was possible to tax heavily and redistribute the funds to the indigent in a way that brought continued political advantage.

The Republicans were a long time learning the lesson but have been making rapid strides in over years. So much so that it is difficult for anyone to be hopeful that we will ever turn away from socialism. It is politically profitable. Whether we will go haltingly and slowly with the Republicans or helter skelter with the Democrats is yet to be decided. And whether we will adopt the other teachings of Karl Marx is another question for the future. Perhaps the success of the Russian experiment will have something to do with that.

The state legislature was confronted with a serious problem at the last session. Because it had saved money during the war it attracted the spenders who initiated bills to spend it. The people voted a basic school law and aid to veterans that cost a lot of money and the surplus disappeared. Legislators were told that the state had to have money—and were convinced.

In the session-end weariness they voted for probably the very worst way to solve the problem and we have the 45 percent surtax on incomes, the whole load on one class of taxpayers. It must be remembered that they could not practically settle the problem with a sales tax.

They could have turned some of the appropriations back to the people by reducing the basic school fund thus letting the people raise it themselves—if needed—on property. That would have been better.

Because of the post-war inflation which was not stopped when it should have been and the resultant high incomes most persons are able to pay high taxes and still have enough left to live better than their dreams of a few years ago. The citizenry can pay taxes. They are not howling about it for more than a few weeks at a time. We expect that a good rousing campaign comparing the base and worldly dollar against a beautiful blond girl would be resolved in favor of more money for schools.

Socialism is a form of government in which the machinery of production is in the hands of the state and the citizen works for the state. Control is in the hands of officials.

Right now in Oregon there are very few taxpayers who do not pay a quarter of their income to government. Many pay a half. Few there are who could not live better, provide for old age better, conduct their business more efficiently if they kept the money themselves.

Objection to taxes is not merely objection to paying out the money. It is objection to giving so much control to an ever growing bureaucracy. It is the independent individuals who are objecting; those in whom the fire of independence does not burn are complacent and willing to let government control their lives.

The only reason that socialism ever wins is that people willingly give up their freedom and independence and snuggle up to the promised comfort of government support. History teaches that the promised support is never as satisfactory or as complete as self-won comforts. But you know how it is: you can lure a horse with a

little pan of oats and work him all day. If the horse was smart he'd go on nibbling grass.

OF FARM

Before long it is going to be necessary for someone to classify farms and farmers if this farm controversy goes on forever. When and if that is done talkers and writers will have to say who and what they are talking about.

There are all kinds of farmers. Big and little, growing corn, wheat, cotton, vegetables, trees, soybeans, singly and mixed; there are dairy farmers and beef farmers and hog farmers and chicken farmers. Not all are prosperous at any one time and never have been, nor will be. Some are efficient and some are not; some would make a success anywhere and some nowhere.

The recent federal census about agriculture shows that in Oregon, out of 32,138 commercial farms (down from 34,470 in 1950) 3128 of them sold more than \$25,000 worth of produce. This is an increase from 2196.

Farms from which \$10,000 to \$24,999 were sold numbered 6489, up from 5534. Farms producing less than \$10,000 decreased in number.

In Sherman county farms producing more than \$25,000 increased from 88 to 155, farms producing from \$10,000 to \$24,999 decreased from 147 to 87. There are less than 25 other farms.

Sherman county has 260 farms so considerably more than half of them produced more than \$25,000. That is high, perhaps one of the highest in the nation.

Anyone talking or writing about farmers is going to be confused and confusing when he puts such farmers in the class of the poor southern sharecropper or the man with a patch of berries or beans. It is also true that the bigger farmers get the largest part of the government payments, which, no doubt, he gets through soil conservation and similar means.

SCHOOL PROBLEMS

In accordance with a legislative resolution each county had a committee of school board members charged with the duty of making up a legislative program to be submitted to the next legislature.

The one in Sherman county has been divided into several sub-committees and we presume the same practice has been followed in other counties.

There is plenty for such a committee to do because education in Oregon is in need of constant study, some urge toward economy, fairer financing.

It certainly would be appropriate if Sherman county's board members resolved that the basic school law should be repealed. It costs taxpayers in this county about \$2.50 for every one that is received and that must irk even the most generous taxpayer.

If the basic school law cannot be repealed it certainly needs amendment. Among the amendments needed is one to provide that no county shall pay more than one and a half times the sum that it gets from the state.

Another is that counties receiving money from the O & C land grant shall include it in their school receipts (that portion used for schools, that is). Now these counties do not include it so that taxes from land goes to the state and taxes from timber do not.

Certainly an effort should be made to see if Oregon's educators could find a way of judging the efficiency of schools other than the amount of money spent on them.

We certainly would like to hear the opinions of school board members about the merit system for school teachers. School boards have to hire teachers and should have something to go on other than appearance and some politely written recommendations. So far the merit system controversy has received the attention of schoolmen almost exclusively. It should not be. There are well accepted ways of judging the progress a pupil makes and the extent of that progress must be largely due to the efficiency of the teacher and there is no reason in the world why it should not be made public or at least available to school boards. They all know how many games a coach wins and loses and should know how well other teachers teach history and mathematics.

School boards in this county might well take an interest in ways and means of eventually consolidating the county into one high school district. Quality of education should be the major reason but economy in taxes may be important someday.

The basic school law attempts to equalize tax rates between districts and counties. It does not attempt to equalize education, nor even "educational opportunity", that one-time catch word. Yet, if the law is merely to equalize taxes it should take distance of transportation, size of school, wages paid teachers, cost of heating buildings, cost of building and other factors that mitigate against many rural districts.

Wasco News

Mrs. Joe Drinkara

The first meeting in 1956 of the Marion Rebekah lodge was held January 11 at the usual time and place. Practice of the drill team was held before lodge opened.

The absence of only two officers, Leo Watkins and Juanita Long, was noted when lodge opened with the new noble grand, Florence Haines in the chair. Other new officers taking their chairs for the first time this year were: Sadie Rich, vice-grand; Alice Wilkinson, secretary; Ruth Fields, conductor; Georgie Drinkara, chaplain; Miss Trounce, musician; Irene Rhinehart, junior past noble; Grace Medler and Selma Watkins, right and left supports; Evelyn Reeves and Lena Brock, right and left supports of the vice grand; Floyd Haines and Sam Brock inside and outside guardians and the absentees Juanita Long, warden and Leo Watkins, treasurer.

Among the communications a letter from the state president, Edna Bradley, was read, requesting a joint meeting with and at Moro on the evening of February 28.

Mrs. Ida B. Lyons was welcomed into the lodge as a member by transfer from the Mosier lodge.

A short memorial service for Marion Medler was held by the lodge led by Sadie Rich, vice-grand; Irene Rhinehart, past noble and George Drinkara, chaplain and the charter was draped by Mrs. Rich and Mrs. Rhinehart.

Mrs. Watkins was named on the flower and card committee.

A good cheer committee was also named and are Mrs. Rhinehart, Mrs. Grace Medler and Mrs. Drinkara.

On the finance committee are Sam Brock, Ruth Fields and Grace Medler.

The press committee is George Drinkara.

Practice for the drill team will be at 7:30 p. m. January 25 before lodge.

Mrs. Haines served gingerbread coffee, popcorn and candy.

The Dorcas society of the Wasco Christian church held its January meeting at the home of Mrs. Owen Barnett recently. Eighteen members were in attendance. After the business meeting refreshments were served by the hostess.

WANTED: Man or woman to handle McNeess Products full or spare time. Opportunity to make \$40 a day. No experience necessary. Write McNeess Co. P. O. Box 14, Bayshore Sta., Oakland, 23, Calif. 13-14p

J. W. DODD, TYGH VALLEY, ORE. Mgr. William J. Collins & Co. Complete stock and bond service. Local, national, foreign. 13c tfn

of Marion H. Medler, deceased, must be presented to the undersigned, duly verified, in care of Leland Medler at Wasco, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice.

Dated and first published January 20, 1956.

NORMA BYRD Executrix
Phipps and Phipps
Attorneys for Executrix
Pioneer Building
The Dalles, Oregon 12-15c

CALL FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the School Board of Grass Valley District No. 23 up until eight o'clock February 13, 1956 for battlement linoleum or asphalt tile laid down on the lunch room and halls of the school building and for re-roofing the building. Specification and measurements may be obtained from the clerk or from members of the board.

The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
Eva Cantrall, clerk

WITH tax-exempt, school, road, and municipal bonds, ALL the income is yours. Yields up to 4%. Often this amounts to a net yield of above 6% after personal income taxes. Inquiries invited.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Executrix of the Will and Codicil of Marion H. Medler, deceased. Claims against the estate

TERRY & MERRITT
We apply the best grade of bonded roofing with 10-15 or 20 year guarantee for different grades.
Asbestos, Insulated, Roman Brick Siding.
Blown in Rock Wool Insulation.
Let us repair or remodel your home to make it more modern.
Box 394 Telephone 383, Wasco, Oregon

THE IMPERIAL HOTEL
proudly announces opening of
The King's Coffee House
Portland's Newest, Most Exciting Dining Place
Designed by Architects Coppedge and Jacobson of Hollywood. Designers of the fabulous New Frontier at Las Vegas. Serving the most delicious food you ever tasted—prepared under the personal supervision of George Sahr and Henry Walther former operators of the famous Dorchester House
IMPERIAL HOTEL
Broadway at Stark -- Portland

Now you can enjoy
Sunny Brook
BRAND
Straight or Blend- as you prefer! \$2.80 pt.
SAME PRICE FOR EACH! \$4.35 4-5 qt.

enjoy the whiskey that's
"Cheerful as its Name"
OLD SUNNY BROOK CO., DIV. OF NATIONAL DISTILLERS PRODUCTS CORP., LOUISVILLE, KY.
BOTH 86 PROOF. KENTUCKY BLENDED WHISKEY CONTAINS 65% GRAIN NEUTRAL SPIRITS.

WANT ADS

FOR SALE: Registered Pomeranian puppies. Phone 352, Moro. 13p

FOR SALE: Piano. Inquire at Moro Hotel Coffee Shop. 12-15c

STRAYED: 2 yearlings, one cow, all Herefords. Crop off both ears split in right. Branded quarter circle, over lazy J dot on left hip. Bernard Martin, Grass Valley Ore. 12-3p

JUSTOM SLAUGHTERING — Meat cutting, wrapping, sharp freeze. Kenny's Market, Grass Valley, Oregon Ph. 242 47tn

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 38tn

FOR SALE: First National Bank of Portland stock. Regular dividends paid since 1895. Largest branch banking system of the Pacific Northwest. Good earnings growth potential. J. W. DODD, TYGH VALLEY, ORE. 9-tn

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

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. Dean Pinkerton, W. M. Clyde Gillmor, Secretary

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116
Meets 21st and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Laura Grabenhorst, N.G.; Vada DeMoss, 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. John Shipley, 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. Dorene Hall, W. M. Dorothy Heater, Secretary

Here They Are!
New Chevrolet Task-Force Trucks for '56!

Now there are more reasons than ever why
anything less is an old-fashioned truck!

Fast Facts About New '56 Task-Force Trucks
A Modern, Short-Stroke V8 for Every Model • More Powerful Valve-in-Head Sixes • An Automatic Drive for Every Series • New Five-Speed Synchro-Mesh Transmission! • High-Level Ventilation • Concealed Safety Steps • Tubeless Tires, Standard on All Models Fresh, Functional Work Styling.
*V8 standard in L.C.F. models, an extra-cost option in all others. †Optional at extra cost in a wide range of models.
CHEVROLET
An automatic transmission for every series! A super-efficient, short-stroke V8 for every model! Higher powered, higher compression 6's! New, higher capacity! Come in and see all the new things that'll whittle down hauling time and slice your costs!
New '56 Chevrolet trucks bring you new power—a short-stroke V8* for every model, and higher compression 6's that pack a bigger power punch than ever!
And you can haul bigger loads! These new Chevrolet trucks are rated up to a hefty 19,500-lb. G.V.W.
Then there's an automatic transmission for every series—a wider range of Hydra-Matic† models, plus Powermatic†, a new six-speed heavy-duty automatic.
Come in and look 'em over!

SUNSET MOTOR COMPANY
523 East THIRD STREET THE DALLES Phone 2166