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REPUTATION

It will bring no regrets to conservative Oregonians that Governor Holmes found it necessary to repudiate his election promises. In fact, it will come as pleasant news that the governor has at last discovered that two and two make four instead of the finer sounding five or six he said would be the sum of those digits last fall.

We do not know who were the Democrats trained in mathematics who prevailed upon the chief executive to amend so drastically his promises, but we think they performed a public service worthy of recognition.

Word from Salem is that the revised budget figures came as something of a shock to the gimme boys who had been figuratively smacking their lips in anticipation of generous slices of taxpayer pie served bountifully by a complacent governor.

Now the estimate of what the taxpayers might stand has been cut to \$265,000,000 instead of some thing like \$312,000,000 which even the most ardent tax reducer will admit is a good start. We are not so naive as to presume that the budget will be below that figure but it sounds as if arithmetic was having its effect on the fine promises.

Even with the \$30,000,000 surplus left over from the Republican administration it is going to take a big slice from incomes to pay the cost of state government. We think that \$265 million is too large a budget for Oregon. We thought the same thing about the \$220 million passed last session. Oregon government is growing too fast.

One thing still is distressing. It apparently is the attitude of both executive and legislative branches of government to extract all they can get from the public's purse in order that state government may be fed as extravagantly as possible. The promises were too grandiose to be fulfilled and some of them have been repudiated, but the intent is to pluck the goose thoroughly and clean while mourning that he produces so little down. The sympathy is still with the sufferers who must endure the poor tax production of Oregon citizens, many of whom are occasionally branded as unpatriotic in their desire to spend their money instead of donating a larger share to the state.

EASY LIVING

It is a well attested biological fact that whenever any variety finds the living too easy it fails to change as its environment changes. Then it ceases to exist.

The same thing is true in economics. A business that does not adjust to changing conditions ceases to exist.

Government programs are doing a serious disservice to some phases of agriculture by maintaining artificial extensions.

The state college extension men have said so often they are almost tired of it that the northwest doesn't produce enough of any kind of meat to feed the citizens of the northwest. We are woefully short of pork and to a lesser degree short of beef. We buy it from the mid-west and pay the freight.

The reason northwest farmers don't produce more meat is that the government programs hold up the price on surplus crops so high it isn't necessary. Now, this is a very pleasant situation and it would be perfect if it wasn't for the acreage reduction that accompanies it. But it does nothing to help the farmer adapt to changing conditions.

More people are coming west and they demand a wider variety of food and fiber than was so in the old days when the west was expected to ship raw products to the populous east because it had little population of its own. The demand for food has changed; people eat more meat and less bread. Farm experts recommend that a farm economy should be based on an income approximately half from animal products and half from field crops. We are sadly out of balance if that be the

case. Sherman county's agricultural income is approximately 92 per cent from field crops and 8 per cent from livestock.

We are failing to compete, failing to meet the competitive situation before us because we do not have to. It may make for some rugged days to come.

MR. MUSA'S STORY

In another column is a letter from Ben Musa, senator from six eastern Oregon counties of which Sherman is one. He says that his floor argument was not entirely stated. He was quoted as saying that all the letters he had received were for the bill and that he did not choose to follow them.

The senate committee received the bill February 8 and it was voted out of that committee February 26, an 18 day period for consideration. Also similar measures were introduced before the legislature in 1936. Deputy State Treasurer Paulus said the bill endangers the state in Mr. Musa's view.

Mr. Musa's view is that the tax liability of his county is one and one-half times as much by property tax as by income tax which seems to be a very compelling reason why citizens might have expected a different vote.

The second letter of Senator Musa refers to SB 290 which he introduced last month. It provides that any school district can vote out of a county high school district. It was introduced "at the request of various taxpayers in Northern Sherman county."

HIGHWAY 97

Let it be said here and now that we have nothing against Wasco county. It is of about normal size for Oregon counties, contains a fortunately situated city and something less than 3000 square miles of pine timber, range land and some badly treated farm land. It is fondly called the "mother" of eastern Oregon counties and as such is entitled to respect. It was usually a very unwilling mother, but we'll let the historians argue about that.

The geography of Wasco county is hilly and forbidding. The hills rise from the Columbia steeply leaving narrow valleys for the small streams to run down. Wasco county would like to have some one build it a highway from the Columbia to the Central Oregon country, a feat that even Joe Shear barely achieved in pioneer road building days.

No one in his right mind is going to try to make a main highway from the Columbia river to the Criterian Junction. It would have to run up fifteen mile steep and the grade is of necessity steep and crooked; it would have to surmount Tygh ridge which would be a mountain in half of the United States; it would have to drop into Tygh valley; climb again into the Wapinitia flat; drop down into the Deschutes gorge at Maupin and climb to the uplands again. Such a road will always be beyond the possibilities of modern road building without the expenditure of more money than the total valuation of Wasco county.

Wasco county, more than any other area, derives the benefit of trade from Sherman county. Whether it enjoys that trade or not it certainly profits therefrom. Except politically and geographically Sherman county is a part of Wasco county. Economically and socially it may as well be one county.

Sherman county has a highway (Federal Highway 97) that is a good highway. It has the best location possible for any route running from the Columbia to the central Oregon plateau. It has comparatively few curves and it has a gentle grade. It does not have to cross deep canyons or bridge rivers. Sherman county is trying to build a bridge across the Columbia to aid the development of traffic on Highway 97. Are they getting aid and comfort from Wasco county? Are they getting the encouragement they might expect as developers of the area? The answer is "NO".

Now Wasco county needs a road to permit the citizens of Tygh ridge to get to the county seat. It needs a road to let Tygh Valley residents, the settlers on Smock Prairie and Antelope to go to The Dalles, OK, OK, But to expect the state highway commission to spend state money to make a broad, straight highway over such a country is pure insanity.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All person having claims against the Estate of Earl James Lyons, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, with the proper vouchers and duly verified, to the undersigned, the duly appointed and acting administrator of the Estate of Earl James Lyons, 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 8, 1937. Clair Balzer Administrator

T. Lester Johnson Attorney for Administrator 18-21c

People's Column

Letter From Salem

By Nicky Tom

Recent press reports conveyed the story I was the only Senator from Eastern Oregon who voted against Senate Bill No. 92. I am very grieved that the press reports did not give the entire story why I voted against this bill. I know this bill was one of the hot political gimmicks that has come before this session and all those who supported the measure resorted to every avenue to promote their individual contention.

In my explanation on the floor of the Senate, which was never mentioned in the press, was twofold. The first reason was that I felt the Senate Tax Committee did not have an opportunity to properly study this measure as all we had was one morning's testimony of those who were in favor of the bill. There was no discussion of the bill in the committee nor had there been an opportunity allowed to those who wished to appear against the bill. Secondly, I voted against the bill because I believe there was a grave possibility the repeal of this section of the law might materially affect the credit rating of the State. I remember distinctly during the 1931 session when this particular law was finally adopted by the Senate Taxation Committee the factor of protecting the State's credit was steadily brought forth. The 1931 legislature referred this matter to the vote of the people and in 1932 the people overwhelmingly approved this measure.

Ben Musa

To the Editor:

Certain individual citizens of northern Sherman county contacted me very early in the session to introduce this particular bill for them. I advised them I had no interest in the particular subject matter and did not wish to become involved in a local misunderstanding. However, as time progressed and the deadline drew near for the introduction of bills in the legislature, there was no other avenue open for these citizens of your county to have their thinking come before the legislature unless one of their representatives introduced the measure. With this feeling, I felt it was my bounded duty to allow these citizens the opportunity of airing their grievances by introducing the legislation they had requested. To do otherwise, I felt I would be shirking my duty and obligation to the people whom I was chosen to represent. If a converse situation had been the case I would have done likewise and, I believe you would agree with me, to deny any minority the right of audience would be highly un-American. I want you to know I have no personal interest in this legislation and I have advised those who have requested it that it is entirely their responsibility to watch this legislation after the bill was introduced. I trust the foregoing will give you an explanation why this measure was introduced by me.

Ben Musa

4-H CLUB NEWS

By Jeannette Belshee

The North Sherman Livestock club held its monthly meeting Sunday, March 3 at 1:30 p. m. in the Wasco Methodist church basement.

The meeting was called to order by president Lee Kaseberg. The flag salute and 4-H pledge were led by Tom Coats. Roll Call was taken and minutes were read by secretary Sally Fields.

Two reports were given. One was on different breeds of beef by Douglas Bish. The other was on lice control by Douglas Medler.

The North Sherman Livestock club will have approximately 12 calves, 16 swine, and 8 sheep to enter in the June Fat Stock Show and Sale in The Dalles. These figures are not final.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. Our next meeting will be at the home of Leland Medler April 7 at 1:30 p. m.

Our days of sun are increasing in frequency and it becomes more and more difficult to stay indoors. I must not let myself start to yearn for the great open spaces with a good two months of law-making still ahead of us.

A remark that I cherish was made halfway through the '35 session by the mother of Louise Humphrey, our highly respected lady tax expert. Bess Cynthia, whom many of us regard as a female "sage of the Ozarks", wrote to Louise asking her if it were not about time for her to go home and start acting like a proper housewife. "Or", she asked, "are those men still sitting there in Salem squandering opinions?"

A great many opinions were aired on the morning of February 28 on the subject of school reorganization. Debate lasted one hour and fifteen minutes, but tempers remained in check. In previous sessions this same subject has led to much heated discussion.

Allen was delegated to make the introductory speech, and since our two young sons had never heard their father speak on a major piece of legislation it seemed like an ideal day to let them serve as pages. They carried messages and ran errands all over the building to their heart's content, but I rather suspect that the oratory left them cold.

There was a motion to refer the bill to the Education committee in order to delay action on it until the Senate had had time to vote on the Key District bill, relating to distribution of the Basic School Support Fund. This move failed, with only thirteen representatives supporting it.

The final ballot gave the bill a strong passage, 46 to 10. Its fate now lies in the hands of the Senate.

On the previous day we were exposed to almost an hour of argument on a bill intended to halt watering of milk and giving the Director of Agriculture the power to establish rules as to what constitutes a diseased dairy herd.

The major portion of the discussion was dominated by attorneys in the House, objecting to wording in various sections of the bill. Our legal eagles succeeded in their effort to send the bill back to the Judiciary committee for revision. During the debate more than one attorney said that the Foods and Dairy committee need not feel apologetic over the errors, since they do not have a man with legal training on the committee.

The next morning these same attorneys blushing confessed that glaring errors had been uncovered in House Bill 343 which came out of their committee and was passed by the House early in the week. Now it became necessary to recall the bill from the Senate and refer it to House Judiciary, requiring two separate parliamentary maneuvers in which the members of the Foods and Dairy committee gleefully joined.

The Senate early in the week passed Senate Bill 92 providing that the State Tax Commission may no longer automatically levy a state property tax in the event that the taxes for the biennium fail to cover expenditures. If the bill passes the House and is signed by the Governor, a property tax levy will require an act of the legislature, except for bond service.

Also passed by the Senate this week was a measure generally referred to as the "fair dismissal" bill. It would require school boards to produce a written statement as to the reason for dismissal of a teacher, upon request by the teacher.

The bill was a repeat attempt, introduced at the request of the OEA and hotly opposed by the Association of School Directors. Teachers feel this law will give them protection against dismissal for reasons of a petty nature. School board members, on the other hand, fear they may now be open targets for libel suits and community squabbles. Senator Phil Lowry, Medford, is of the opinion that the bill will fail to accomplish its purpose because

school directors may tend to avoid becoming involved in unpleasant situations by entering fictitious reasons for dismissal on the record.

Two letters received this week deserve mention. One, which was sent to each member, proposed that we designate the Corn Tassel as our National Floral Emblem. Why not wheat (the surplus kind).

The other letter would be humorous had it come from a small child, but having been composed by a junior high school student (in the Western part of the state) it becomes pathetic. It was a request printed in pencil, reading as follows: "Will you please send me an autographed picture of yourself, also a letter telling me how the legislature is runned."

Visitors this week included Kenneth Batty, Hardman, Phil Mahoney, Heppner, Gene Cutsforth, Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Fatland of Condon.

At the reception given by Boyd Overhulse February 27 we talked with Father Stone from Madras. He was formerly Bill Stone, and grew up and attended school in The Dalles. He asked me to send regards to all of his old friends in the Dalles and surrounding area, particularly several of the Macnab boys.

WANT ADS

FOR SALE: Model 8N Ford tractor, good condition, some attachments, W. D. Watkins, Wasco, 17-18P

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
All persons having claims against the Estate of William Edma Dutton, aka William E. Dutton, aka W. E. Dutton, deceased, are required to present them with vouchers to Vernon W. Dutton, Wasco, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. The date of the first publication of this notice is February 22, 1937. VERNON W. DUTTON Executor

DICK & DICK  
The Dalles, Oregon  
Attorneys for the Estate 16-19c

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
All persons having claims against the Estate of H. T. Peugh, deceased, are hereby notified to present them in proper form to the undersigned, the duly appointed, qualified and acting executrix of the Last Will and Testament of H. T. Peugh, deceased, at the office of T. Lester Johnson, attorney at law, Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of this Notice, to-wit: February 15, 1937. Gertrude L. Peugh Executrix

T. Lester Johnson Attorney for Executrix 15-18c

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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 member invited. Moro, Oregon. Dorene Hall, W. M. Dorothy Heater, 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. Paul Alley, W.M. Clyde Gilmore, Secretary

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. N.G.; Vada DeMoss, Moro. Laura Grabenhorst, Secretary



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Quick as a cat can wink its eye

Thanks to modern kitchen miracles, today's housewife can bake a cherry pie or concoct a whole meal "quick as a cat can wink its eye."

But what does she do with the time she saves? Just takes care of three or four kids, acts as family chauffeur and nurse, does the washing and ironing, probably helps out at the local hospital or serves as Den Mother for ten husky, unruly Cub Scouts.

And she does even more! Chances are she acts as family purchasing agent and bookkeeper. And her family's financial standing depends as much upon her ability to budget and save money as it does on her husband's ability to earn it.

That's why so many women today are helping their husbands get started on a regular savings program in U.S. Series E Savings Bonds. The secret of saving is system, and one of the easiest systems to follow is the Payroll Savings Plan. Once a wage earner signs up for this plan where he works, his money is automatically saved for him in safe and sure U.S. Savings Bonds.

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