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Increased Gas Tax Will Aid Highway Work

More than \$2,000,000 in additional revenue will be collected by the state of Oregon in 1930 as a result of the one cent per gallon increase in the state tax on gasoline and distillate sales, bringing the total receipts from this source to \$7,052,054 according to a tentative estimate made by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state. After January 1, 1930, this tax will be four cents per gallon on gasoline and 3 1-2 cents on distillate, the new rate being the first change since the rise in 1923.

During the present year, with collections in for nine months and the revenue for the remainder of the year estimated, a total of \$4,807,973 is anticipated for receipts during 1929. Based on the constantly increasing number of gallons of motor fuel sold during the year, an estimate has been fixed for 1930 on a gain of 10 per cent in sales. This, taken in conjunction with the one cent additional tax, is expected to bring a total of \$7,052,054 into the state's coffers. Refunds made to purchasers who use gasoline for agricultural or industrial purposes will run approximately \$520,801 and administrative expenses will require \$10,000, leaving a net revenue for the state highway fund of \$6,521,253. To this may be added the projected receipts from motor vehicle fees and licenses of \$5,605,327, which will give the highway fund more than \$12,126,580 during 1930.

All revenue accruing from the tax on motor vehicle fuel is turned over to the state highway fund to be allocated by the state highway commission in the construction and maintenance of roads throughout the state. No division is made direct to the counties from this source as is in the case of the receipts from motor vehicle fees which will net the counties some \$2,802,663 in 1930. Reduction in automobile license rate and a new apportionment of one-third of the receipts from motor vehicle fees to counties would leave the state highway fund with less revenue proportionally than heretofore were it not for the added tax on gasoline, which was established by the 1929 legislative assembly.

DAIRY INDUSTRY SUFFERS LOSS FROM LOW GRADE MILK&CREAM

Low grade milk and cream is costing the dairy industry of this country about \$40,000,000 a year, said O. E. Reed, chief of the U. S. Bureau of Dairy Industry in an address in St. Paul, Minn. at the National Creamery Buttermakers' Convention. Much of this loss is due to refusal of dealers to accept sour and off-flavored products and such refusal means direct financial loss to the farmer, said Mr. Reed.

"The marketing of low quality milk and cream results many times in the manufacture of inferior grade of dairy products," he said. "Because these products bring low prices, the farmer does not receive the best price for his milk and cream." People consume more milk and cream and milk and cream products when the grade is high than when it is low; the great increase in the per-capita milk consumption in this country in the last few years is attributed partly to the remarkable improvement in the quality of the milk and cream sold, he said.

"Billions of pounds of skim milk, buttermilk, and whey produced each year in the United States are either wasted or are inefficiently used, and the discovery and development of methods of utilizing these by-products is one of the important objects of the Bureau of Dairy Industry. Investigations along this line include work on the manufacture of dry skim milk and extending this product in making bread and ice cream."

REVISED VERSION
Sonny—"Must I sleep in the dark?"
Mother—"Yes."
"Oh, then let me say my prayers over again—more carefully."

BUSINESS CONDITIONS NOT SO GOOD IN 12th DISTRICT

During October the decline in production in primary distribution, reported in September, spread to other fields of business activity. Commodity prices moved downward. A drastic decline in securities prices placed additional credit burdens upon member banks and more Federal reserve credit was called into use than has been needed since 1921.

Continued dry weather has affected agriculture unfavorably retarding the sowing of winter wheat and causing further impairment of condition of livestock and livestock ranges. Scanty range forage has forced the premature marketing of some range stock during recent weeks. Both foreign and domestic laying of wheat have been in rather small volume this autumn and stored stocks are relatively large. Although yields of nearly all fruit crops have been smaller than last year, aggregate financial returns to growers, due to higher prices, have been about equal to those of 1928. Despite recent unfavorable factors in the situation, it still appears probable that agricultural purchasing power has not been reduced as compared with a year ago.

Seasonal curtailment in employment of industrial workers was reported during October. For the month as a whole, there were smaller than seasonal increases in building and construction operations, flour milling, petroleum production, and nonferrous metals mining. During the last week of October sharp curtailment in output of many industries was reported, although those industries supplying goods for the holiday trade were reported to be generally active.

After making allowance for the usual seasonal changes, nearly all lines of retail trade showed declines in value of sales during the month. Daily average department store sales were smaller than in September and sales of new passenger automobiles and trucks decreased substantially. Sales at wholesale increased. Domestic shipments through the Panama Canal also increased, chiefly because of heavier eastbound shipments of refined petroleum products.

The general level of commodity prices declined during October. Included in the decline were prices of wheat, livestock, and wool, all important products of this District. Relatively satisfactory prices for fruits have helped maintain the purchasing power of a large section of the agricultural community. Early in November California crude oil prices which, on October 21, had been reduced as much as 65 per cent in some fields, were restored to the levels in effect prior to the reduction.

Changes in both member bank statements during recent weeks have reflected largely demands for additional credit growing out of the needs of local and eastern security markets. The rapid downward movement of stock prices in late October and early November was accompanied, at member banks, by a substantial movement of funds to New York, a decrease in deposits, and an increase in loans. To help meet this situation, member banks increased their borrowings at the Reserve Bank by 38 million dollars. The amount of reserve bank credit in use at mid-November was larger than at any time since 1921, and the reserve ratio of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, at any time since 1921, and the reserve ratio of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, at 57.9 on November 15, was at the lowest point reached since that year.

A MOOSE STORY

One of the four moose in Douglas county broke into print in Good Housekeeping Magazine of last month. The story was told of a moose who suffered a broken leg in the wilds of Douglas county about a year ago. The animal was caught and the leg set by a deputy warden and a rancher. Some time later after the leg had healed the rancher was in a boat on a stream and he saw amoose standing on the bank. Presently the animal plunged into the water and swam to the boat. The rancher rubbed the nose of the beast and then it swam away, having expressed its thanks for the kind treatment previously received.

THANKSGIVING

Today is Thanksgiving and everyone has something to be thankful for. Any optimist can find many things to be thankful for—'tis only the pessimist who sees no silver linings to life's dark clouds. We may not like the weather—but we have seen worse. We may not feel good but we have felt much worse. We may not be wealthy but there are others who may be even poorer. This old planet may look dark and drear but the next world may not be so good.

There may be clouds here, now but somewhere the sun is shining. So it is with life. Oftentimes everything appears to be at about the lowest ebb. We permit ourselves to be carried into the depths of despond and everything seems to be gloomy and when someone comes along with a smile and a joke it seems almost impossible that anyone can be happy but soon we get the spirit of his smile and the mirth of his joke and we too smile and joke and everything becomes brighter.

On Thanksgiving Day—why not be jolly. Let joy be unrestrained. Pass on to all our surroundings a word of cheer or a smile to help them to enjoy a fuller life.

Our president and governor have declared the day a day of thanksgiving and asked the people of this great nation to observe the day in fitting manner. This holiday is our holiday. It is not handed on to us from the early pagans, the sun worshippers, the early Christian or from any foreign nation. Thanksgiving day originated in the youth of this land—when the Oregon country was known only to savages and animals. The band of reformers who had cast their lot in this great undeveloped western world gave birth to the day when after many trials and hardships—when savages and the ravages of disease and the bitter-cold of the elements had all done their deadliest work—were blessed with good crops and fortune seemed to smile upon them. They set aside a day of thanksgiving and offered up their devotion to their heavenly father for the blessings which they had received. They were a religious people and they deemed the showing of good fortune the creator's way of expressing his sanction for their cause.

We moderns make this day an event for the offering of thanks and for the commemoration of the early work of our pilgrim forefathers.

We are sure there is no one but who has something to feel thankful for and we hope that the spirit of the day prevails even into the darkest corners of the nation.

OREGON PLANES ON INCREASE IS SHOWN BY HOSS

Evidence of the increasing ownership of airplanes by individuals and of the formation of additional companies for the commercial use of planes in Oregon are shown in the list of registered craft in the state. This list has been prepared by Secretary of State Hoss, from the registrations received by his office. Of the 63 planes listed about 50 per cent are owned by individuals.

Aircraft belonging to the federal government or its divisions and those used in inter-state commerce are not required to register with the state department, since the federal department of commerce regulates their licensing. The secretary of state has charge of aircraft registra-

Female Sherlock Holmes

Servant girl—"Madam, master lies unconscious in the hall, with a piece of paper in his hand and a large box alongside."
Mme. X (joviously)—"Oh, my new hat has arrived."

tion while the state board of aeronautics supervises the licensing of pilots.

A number of planes are owned by Oregon firms for inter-state use, which are registered only by the federal government. For those used exclusively in the state the Rankin flying service and the Union air lines both of Portland, lead the list in ownership, each firm having 4 planes.

OREGON ORGANIZES MANY NEW GRANGE ORDERS

The National Grange has been in session at Seattle the past week in its 63rd convention. Louis J. Taber Master and Harry A. Caton Secretary both of Ohio, were re-elected yesterday. The Oregon subordinate Granges have been voting on nominees for state Grange officials and Bertha J. Beck, the efficient secretary, is the only one who has a clear field for the election next April. The other elective positions have several contenders. For Master, Geo. A. Palmiter, incumbent, A. R. Shumway, M. S. Shrock, R. W. Gill, and M. C. Glover are proposed. For Overseer, M. C. Glover, incumbent, Dr. A. Slaughter, Schrock, Gill, C. W. Craft, Shumway, Warren Young, Fred Koski, H. F. Warren, and W. A. Jones are named. For lecturer, Mrs. Minnie E. Bond, incumbent, Mrs. Marie Flint McCall, C. C. Hulet, Mrs. Jesse Miller, W. R. Gekeler, Fred Goff, Mrs. Margaret Denny and Mrs. E. A. Blake are candidates. All but two for each office will be eliminated by vote next month and election will be in April. Oregon organized more new granges the past year than any state except North Carolina.

FOURTEEN FEDERAL MEN LOST IN FOREST FIRES

The total of human life taken by fires on the national forests in this year's disastrous fire season includes fourteen employees of the U. S. Forest service, six of whom were in the North Pacific District of Oregon and Washington. This information is given out by the Portland office of the Forest Service.

Loss of life of forest personnel was heavier this year than in any year since 1910. The largest number of deaths due to forest fires occurred in the North Pacific District, where six forest service employees lost their lives. The Northern District (Montana and Idaho) reported four deaths and the California and Eastern Districts two each.

The Forest Service does not know how many deaths there have been of persons not on its employment rolls, but it is known that a number of people not on these rolls lost their lives on account of the fires in the forests in the Pacific Northwest as well as elsewhere in the west.

TURKEYS TO BE GOVERNMENT-GRADED

Preparations for the government grading of more than 500,000 turkeys this year are being completed by the Department of Agriculture. Government inspectors will grade birds at terminal markets in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburg, Detroit, and Chicago, and cooperative agreements have been made with State departments of Agriculture for Federal-State grading at shipping points in Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Wyoming, California, Montana, Minnesota, Virginia, and Maryland.

Government-graded birds will have paper "bracelets" around the shank, on which the grade will be printed over the initials of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture. The grades are "U. S. Prime" and "U. S. Choice" as applied to young birds that meet requirements of these grades, and the older birds which qualify will be labeled "U. S. Prime, Mature", or "U. S. Choice, Mature." More than 100 classifiers at shipping points have been licensed by the bureau of Agricultural Economics for grading turkeys.

Approximately 200,000 turkeys were Government-graded last year, but it is expected that more will be graded this year in view of the estimated increase of 9 per cent in the size of the crop as compared with last year.

Gene Simpson, superintendent of state game farms has reported to Harold Clifford, state game warden, that 17,823 Chinese pheasants were released during the year. In addition to these there was a release of 1,643 Hungarian partridges in the counties of Eastern Oregon. Wild turkeys released numbered 356, guinea fowl 537 and golden pheasants, 60.

Farm Board Will Be Aided By the Grange

The National Grange and other general farm organizations can be of great assistance to the Federal Farm board in the administration of the Agricultural Marketing act, Charles S. Wilson, Member, Federal Farm board, said in an address prepared for delivery November 20 before the annual convention of the National Grange at Seattle, Wash. Mr. Wilson outlined to the convention what the board has done thus far in helping grain, wool and mohair, livestock and other groups of cooperative associations to organize national commodity marketing agencies. He discussed in a general way the policies of the Farm Board thus far developed.

Samuel R. McKelvy, Member Federal Farm Board, told the convention about the organization of the Farmers National Grain Corporation and what it has hoped this central marketing agency will accomplish for the grain producers of the country.

"The program of the Board, we realize," Mr. Wilson said in addressing the National Grange convention, "is an ambitious one. It is one which we believe merits the support of every farmers' organization and every agency engaged in research, teaching, or extension work in agriculture. We have the assistance and support of the United States Department of Agriculture, the state agriculture colleges, and extension services.

"We believe that farm organizations, and particularly the Grange with its long history of service to agriculture, can be of great assistance. It is a program which challenges the best effort of every farm organization and I believe it is only necessary to outline the situation to you in order to obtain your hearty support. Cooperative marketing is dependent upon the ability of the individual farmer to understand marketing problems and policies.

"The local granges for many years have been a great factor in bringing to their members the agricultural problems. It is suggested that in making up the program for the local Granges, at least one evening consideration should be devoted to marketing policies and practices. The time is past when cooperative marketing can be based on propaganda. It is time now for frank and informal discussion of the farmers' marketing problems and of necessity of the farmers becoming able to understand and meet these problems upon their own initiative. Therefore, I believe that the Grange can render no greater service to agriculture at present than to continue to strengthen its program of education and discussion in the local Granges.

"At the present time, I would suggest that the local county and state Granges give support and guidance to the cooperative associations in their territory. I am not asking the Grange to accept or support a cooperative which is considered to be unsound or poorly managed. I am asking that the Grange and its members aid in correcting unsound conditions in so far as possible. I am asking that you accept the principle which I am sure you do, that cooperative marketing is sound and that you will do your part to see that it is not retarded by inefficiency of any kind."

MANY COUGAR KILLED DURING PAST FISCAL YEAR

A total of 288 cougar were killed in Oregon during the state game commission's fiscal year which ended September 30. This was 34 more than were killed during the preceding year. A total of 87 of the big cats were killed in Douglas county; 58 in Lane, 37 in Curry and Clackamas and Coos hunters took 25 each. Eight wolves were killed and seven of these were reported from Douglas county.



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