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EDITORIALS

THERE IS NO FINANCIAL SANTA CLAUS

One of the greatest obstacles in the way of curing the growing tax problem is the ancient human desire to get something for nothing.

That desire is at the forefront, in times such as the present when vast sums are being spent for direct relief and for public projects. Practically every state is making an effort to obtain a larger share of federal funds than neighboring commonwealths. One of the most potent "sales talks" of high state officials is that they have been instrumental in obtaining federal grants for their constituents.

The idea has gotten around that this money is "free". And so it is—to the extent that the state pays nothing for it directly. Yet every cent of the money comes from the federal treasury—it is made possible by federal borrowings which are secured by liens on every enterprise, every piece of property, every investment in the nation. Interest payments on the bonds must be obtained through taxation—and when the time for amortization comes, the money must also be raised by taxing the public.

Generally speaking, the federal grants are proportioned to states on the basis of population, the percentage of needy being about the same in one part of the country as another. As a result, the people of the various states will have to pay back the money they get precisely as they would if it were secured by state bonds. The only advantage the federal government has is in borrowing money at a slightly lower interest rate than a state.

This is not to argue that relief isn't necessary—it is. But it is also a fact that states are obtaining money for luxury projects which they do not need, and whose contribution to the welfare of the people is far less than it should be, in the light of their cost. Once the public learns that no one in history has managed to devise a way of getting something of value for nothing, it will demand that the states, as a whole, stop looking for a financial Santa Claus, and use more common sense.

MAGIC WON'T WORK

"There is no magic in the cooperative business formula," said F. W. Peck, Cooperative Bank Commissioner, recently, "and so far no supermen have appeared who have been able to change the fundamental rules of ordinary business procedure. The very acts of organizing, electing a board of directors, choosing a manager and developing the human relations between the manager and his board, his membership and his essential business and trade contacts offer very real problems, requiring the highest type of executive ability."

During the history of the farm cooperative movement, there have been co-ops which failed and their failure may be laid to lack of understanding of the matters of which Mr. Peck speaks. They had good motives, they possessed enthusiasm and the will-to-achieve, but they forgot that sound business principles must underlie every successful venture whether it be the management of a factory or a farm. On the other hand, the notable co-ops of the country, which have made fine records and are regarded with the highest esteem, inevitably were organized and maintained with those basic business principles always in mind. Capable directors managers and personnel, plus the loyal aid and support of members, are at the root of their success.

A strong, intelligently managed co-op can be the farmer's best ally—a weak poorly-founded one can unwittingly do great harm. Patience not magic; proven principles, not wild theories, are the instruments of cooperative progress.

TOWARD BETTER LEGAL PROCEDURE

The American Bar Association is carrying out a five-point educational program directed both to lawyers and to the general public. The points included are: Enforcement of professional ethics; Criminal law and its enforcement; Legal education and admission to the bar; unauthorized practice of the law; Selection of judges.

As a start, the Association sent letters, pamphlets, questionnaires and informative releases to the 1,400 bar associations of the country, explaining the scope and purposes of the campaign. This was followed by a radio program, designed to give the public a knowledge of the work. The program has been on the air each Saturday night.

The Association believes that the public, at the moment, is particularly receptive to proposals for reforms in criminal law, and this phase of the project has been emphasized. Acting directly, the Association is now cooperating with the International Association of Chiefs of Police in an effort to secure more efficient police personnel, and to improve the standard of departments throughout the country.

Here is a work in which every citizen has a vital interest—it affects his home, his property, the very lives of himself and his family. Strengthening and improving the law, and the practice of the law, is one of the great needs of the time—and the Bar Association, in pursuing its program, is performing an invaluable patriotic duty.

HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE RAILROADS?

Perhaps you are one of the people who think that all the stir and tumult over the railroad problem is somewhat unnecessary—that, even if the railroads go out of existence, other types of carriers will be able to adequately meet the nation's transport needs.

If you are, the following facts, brought out by Professor Elliot Jones of Stanford University, will come as an interesting surprise:

In 1930, the railroads carried 383,000,000,000 ton-miles of revenue freight—and this was well below the amount they carry in a normal year. To have carried this by truck—our second most important medium of transport—more than 19,000,000 vehicles would have been needed, six times as many as are now in the country.

To drive, service, make and sell these trucks, and manufacture necessary materials, Professor Jones continued, the entire working population of the nation would be required. Thus, every family in the country would be dependent for a livelihood on the trucking industry—and no one would be left to produce the articles which the trucks would transport!

This casts no reflection on the trucking industry, which performs a valuable service in its field. But it does show just how necessary railroads are to the maintenance and continuance of our industrial civilization. They are still the basic medium of transport, and no competitor yet visioned could do even a small part of their work. Their welfare is inescapably related to that of all businesses, all workers, all the people.

Table Rock Rockets

James Seabrooke who has been employed for several months at Oakland, California is home for the holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Seabrooke.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Morris are spending the holidays in Eugene with their son Edmund Morris and family.

Many attended the Christmas program at the school house Friday evening. The program was given by the school children, followed by the appearance of Santa Claus and the distribution of gifts and candy.

The E. R. Hull family returned to the valley last week to look for a location. They have been residing in Martinez, California.

Table Rock Women's club will meet Thursday January 3 at the home of Mrs. Violet Schafer. Mrs. Lloyd Hamlin and Mrs. Fred Smith will serve refreshments.

At the community club meeting Friday evening, a committee was appointed for the purpose of beautifying the Table Rock road. Members appointed were: Miss Grace Lydard, Mrs. V. Schafer, Mrs. Elmer Kyle, Mrs. S. M. Tuttle, R. E. Nealon and Clyde Briggs.

U. S.

"Rastus, I see your mule has 'U. S.' branded on his hindquarters. Was he an army mule before you got him?"

"No boss, dat 'U. S.' don't stan' fah 'Uncle Sam'; dat means 'unsafe'."

Sams Valley Items

Mr. Arch Downs who lives on the Fruit place, one mile east of the Four-Corners Service Station, was hauling hay with a wagon hitched behind a tractor, from the Gilchrist place where he formerly resided on Monday of last week.

Several hundred turkeys were sold from this valley on the Christmas market. So turkey picking has been much in evidence and was the cause of several absentees from high school, also a few from the upper grades.

Rev. Magerle from Rogue River preached Sunday morning, Dec. 16, after Sunday school. His wife accompanied him. He left an appointment for the third Sunday in January at 11:00 a. m.

The Sams Valley high basketball team played St. Mary's at Medford Friday Dec. 14. The winning score was in favor of Sams Valley for the first team and St. Mary's for the second. They also played Ashland Junior High on Wednesday Dec. 19. The score for each team was 18 to 27 in Sams Valley's favor.

Miss Eleanor Coombe and Miss Erma May spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Empey last week.

Misses Mary Esther and Etna Davis accompanied Mrs. Ada East to her home in Medford Friday evening. They returned Saturday night.

Mrs. Dick Straus was Local Leader at the Home Extension Unit meeting Thursday. She gave a very interesting and instructive demonstration on purchasing and caring for hosiery.

There is quite a number ill with the flu. Several have nearly developed pneumonia. This has occasioned absentees in school. Some of the pupils had to be taken home the past week.

On Thursday evening the school gave a Christmas program. All the rooms participating. It was enjoyed by a large crowd of patron's and friends. Santa Claus paid a call at the close of the program and added much to the joy of the younger folks.

Prof. E. W. Empey, wife and children left Friday afternoon for Salem to spend the holidays with home folks.

Mrs. Ada East left for her home in Medford and Miss Coombe and Miss May for their home in Ashland. School will re-open January 2.

The Grange gave a dance at Catton Hall on Saturday night.

Elaine and Dick Rush left with relatives Dec. 9 to spend the holidays in California.

On Sun. Dec. 23 a group of young people from the Baptist church in Medford assisted by the church choir came out to Sams Valley and presented a Christmas pageant. This was greatly enjoyed by all those fortunate enough to be present both portrayal and music being excellent and we certainly appreciate the efforts of these people in bringing this beautiful Christmas program to us. The' we were sorry Mr. Everett Finley's illness prevented his families being able to accompany them. Mrs. Finley was formerly Supt. of our Sunday school for a year.

Christmas was saddened for Messrs. J. B. and Marshal Fisher when they received a telephone call Sunday noon December 22 telling them that their brother Mr. A. H. Fisher of Phoenix had passed away. His death was quite unexpected as they had received an invitation on Friday to spend Christmas with him. He was past eighty-four years of age. We extend sympathy in this bereavement.

Due to so much sickness it was decided best to not hold any service Sunday evening. But will start the study of the Bible on next Sunday evening using the outlines given by Rev. D. D. Randal and would like to see a large crowd as we feel sure these will be interesting and instructive.

Mr. Albert Straus is taking these presents to Medford for us. They will be taken to the children by Mr. Randal as soon as he returns from El Paso, Texas where he is spending Christmas with his wife and son, Dwight.

Lewis Dusenberry caught a bobcat last week.

Mrs. Otto Tresham who underwent a major operation a short time ago has been quite ill.

The Young People's Society collected and made over quite a number of toys for Rev. Randal to distribute among children in his territory.

Christmas remembrances. One box went in Dec 14 and another will be sent in this week.

Association Teaches Wise Use of Loan

Production credit associations in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana are teaching their farmer-members the wise use of borrowed funds and are encouraging them to get out of debt. Ernest E. Henry, President of the Production Credit Corporation of Spokane, said today (December 8).

"Associations in those states anticipate a substantial increase in business in 1935. However they expect old borrowers, or those who obtained loans this year, to borrow less next year," Mr. Henry said.

"Production credit associations which are cooperative organizations of farmers and livestock men borrowing for agricultural production purposes, encourage their fellow members to carefully budget both their expenditures and their repayments. By this practice they help to keep borrowers' need for credit down to a minimum necessary for carrying on their farming and livestock operations, and at the same time are getting the loans repaid promptly."

Production credit associations in those four states provided over \$20,000,000 of credit in 1934. Loans were made to a wide variety of producers, including livestock men, grain growers, truck growers, and fruit raisers. Due to the fact that these associations began their operations relatively late in the 1934 season, only a very minor part of their loans was made in the regions severely affected by the drought, he said.

Oregon Newspapers Vie for Trophies

University of Oregon, Eugene, Dec. 13.—Editors of weekly newspapers in Oregon will vie for three trophies this year, all awarded by the University of Oregon chapter, of Sigma Delta Chi, national professional journalism fraternity, it was announced here. All weeklies will be eligible to compete for awards for the best paper and for the best editorial page, while weeklies in cities of less than 1,000 population will contest for a separate cup.

The award for the best weekly in the smaller cities will be given for the first time this year, and the winner will be announced at the annual Newspaper Conference held here in January. It will be known as the Hal E. Hoss cup, in memory of the former secretary of state who died recently. Mr. Hoss, before becoming secretary of state, was a newspaperman and always took a keen interest in publication problems of the smaller papers. He was prominent in Oregon State Editorial activities and held numerous offices during his membership.

The cup for the best editorial page is known as the Paul R. Kelly cup in recognition of the career of Mr. Kelly, now editor of The Oregonian. It is now held by the Hood River news, and will change hands next July. The cup for the best weekly, known as the Sigma Delta Chi cup, is held by the Forest Grove News Times, and is awarded each year at the Newspaper Conference here.

Oregon 4-H Clubs Win Prizes in National Competition

Oregon has once more lived up to its reputation as one of the most consistent exhibitors of high quality 4-H club work in the junior division of the International Livestock exposition at Chicago and the national club congress held in connection with the show each year. This is the report of H. C. Seymour, state club leader, recently returned from Chicago where the congress and exposition were held the first week in December.

Chris Starr of Amity, who received a trip to Chicago as the western 4-H meat production champion in the Thomas E. Wilson contest, placed third in the national competition, winning a \$100 agricultural college scholarship. First place in their division, with a \$160 prize, and a silver loving cup for national championship was won by the Gresham 4-H canning club, led by Helen Clark, a 4-H club girl, in the Hazel-Atlas canning contest. Second place and \$80 in this contest was won by the Portland Canning club, led by Mrs. Faust.

National championship in the Hazel-Atlas contest was won last year by the Portland Canning club. Altogether this honor has come to Oregon four times in the past 10 years, Mr. Seymour says.

Oregon clubbers also made nearly a clean sweep of the honors in the junior corn exhibit in their region, which included nine western states.

George Shambrook of Douglas county placed first; Carson Adams, Lane county, second; Walter Marks, Douglas county, fifth; Leonard Freeman, Lane county, seventh; Amos Bierly, Washington county, eighth, and Ralph Hone, Lane county, ninth. Oregon's state exhibit in corn placed ninth nationally.

In the Netted Gem division of the potato exhibit, Charles Seman of Klamath Falls placed first nationally. June Clark of Multnomah county won second place on a complete costume; Myrna Yaird of Lane county placed fifth in the cotton school dress class, and Joy McDonald of Multnomah county placed seventh on window curtains. Dorothy Wheeler of Multnomah county placed first on her exhibit of five jars of meat.

Oregon winners in the individual jar division of the Hazel-Atlas contest were as follows: Helen Clark, first on asparagus; Patsy Childer, Portland, third on carrots; Melba Andrews, Lane county, fourth on tomatoes and first on loganberries; Rosa Reichle, Portland, second on pickles, second on peaches and second on fish; Marian Welbes, Multnomah county, third on apricots; Kathryn Parks, Portland, fifth on peaches; Jean Hulbert, Multnomah county, second on raspberries and first on fish; Jane McFarland, Multnomah county, second on salads; Marie Meyer, Portland, third on vegetable salad.

Horticulture Meet Draws Big Crowd

A two-day program crammed full of reports and discussions dealing with all phases of the tree fruit industry drew nearly 200 growers and others interested to the forty-ninth annual meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society held at Hood River December 10 and 11.

Elmo Chase of Eugene was chosen as the new president, succeeding John H. Mohr of Hood River. Other new officers are Elmer Chastain, first vice-president; Col. Gordon Voorhies, Medford, second vice-president, and Dan Pearson, Hood River third vice-president. O. T. McWhorter, O. S. C., was re-elected secretary treasurer, and Raymond W. Reter, Medford, was re-elected to another three-year term as trustee. Other trustees whose terms hold over are Glenn B. Marsh, Hood River, and Howard S. Merriam, Goshen.

H. P. Bares, plant pathologist of the Oregon Experiment station, was elected to honorary membership in the society, in recognition of his many contributions to the horticultural industry.

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