

The American

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ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL
Editor and Proprietor



EDITORIALS

ALL TAXES ARE SALES TAXES

No form of taxation is so bitterly assailed as the sales tax. The political "friends of the common people" have been especially virulent in denouncing it, on the grounds that the burden of the tax falls more heavily on persons of small and moderate means than on the wealthy.

That is all very well. But a very vital point that the people do not realize is this: There is no other kind of tax, so far as the effect is concerned, than the sales tax.

Every tax must be paid, and paid in full, by the ultimate consumers of goods and products. Every tax levied increases the cost of necessities and luxuries we need and buy and use. When we buy a pair of shoes we must pay a score of taxes—the tax that was paid by the raiser of the cattle, by the railroad that transported them, by the factory that tanned and cured the leather, by the manufacturer, by the distributor, and finally, that paid by the dealer is included in the cost of the pair of shoes we get. That is true of food, clothing, entertainment and everything else.

The "common people"—families of moderate income—have the most to lose from tax extravagance, and the most to gain from tax economy. There aren't enough rich in this country to carry the cost of government for a week—all but a small part of government income stems indirectly from workers and salaried people and from those who have a little coming in from investments. The sales tax by name may be unpopular—but we all pay it. We cannot get rid of it—but we can, by mass action, demand governmental economy, efficiency and retrenchment that will lower its cost.

PRICK THE POLITICAL POWER BALLOON

The so-called "power issue" represents one of the most amazing political phenomena in the history of this or any other country.

If the advocates of government power developments are to be believed, the country is continuing in depression largely because power rates are too high. Men are out of work, children are unfed, widows and orphans are freezing, and our social structure is tottering—all because of the nefarious activities of the power barons.

It would be interesting to see just one of the millions of citizens who are said to suffer these severe deprivations because of the high cost of power. The average household electric bill is about \$3.00 a month. That, by comparison with its grocery bill, its tax bill, and its amusement bill is of infinitesimal significance. It's a safe bet that the average family tobacco bill is in a majority of cases more than the monthly power and light bill for the home.

If "free" political power were peddled to the public from government subsidized, tax-exempt public plants, the householder might save tobacco money or a half dozen 50c movie tickets a month. If it were cut by 50 per cent it would not save enough in many cases to pay the garbage man. If power costs are causing family suffering, what are bread bills, meat bills, grocery bills and tax bills causing?

Probably no economic problem affects the home less than does power. A fractional cut in the tax rate, for example, would save the average family more than would the complete elimination of its power bill. So would a fractional cut in the cost of medical care, food, clothing or rent. Then why all the hullabaloo about reducing the power bill?

Power has been blown up into a great political balloon to frighten the people—but when you puncture it with the pin of fact, it returns to its infinitesimal size in relation to the cost of living.

"TO SAVE AN EDITOR"

Here is at least one minister who appreciates the editor. At a recent editorial convention, a Kansas minister is reported to have offered the following toast:

"To save an editor from starvation, take his paper and pay for it promptly.

"To save him from bankruptcy, advertise in his paper liberally.

"To save him from despair, send him every item of news you can get hold of.

"To save him from profanity, write your correspondence plainly on one side of the sheet and send it in as early as possible.

"To save him from mistakes bury him. Dead people are the only ones who never make mistakes."

—Arlington Bulletin.

Sams Valley Items

Donald, young son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Empey, was taken to the hospital in Medford on Jan. 22. He has a severe attack of flu and pneumonia set in. He was brought home January 26 much improved but still quite a sick boy. His mother stayed with him at the hospital and Mrs. Joe Dusenberry kept his baby sister while they were gone. Dr. Hayes is attending physician. We hope for a speedy recovery.

There is still snow in the hills but it is gone from the main valley. Some of the school children are still walking through snow.

Five relief workers are staying with Oran Atkinson and cutting wood on the Williams ranch.

The Women's club met with Miss Mary Edington on January 17.

Geo. McDonough caught a bob cat Friday and Lloyd Dusenberry caught one Saturday.

The Extension Unit met at the school house Thursday, Jan. 24th. This was the first time Mrs. Mack has been with them this year and they were very glad to welcome her back. Menu planning was discussed and a number of good ideas on the subject were given.

The Pomona Grange met with the Sams Valley Grange on Saturday January 25. There was a large attendance. Much interest was shown in the program and a pleasant time enjoyed by all.

Mrs. John Holst and Mrs. Glenn Holst were calling on Mrs. Empey Monday afternoon.

The young folks were disappointed Sunday morning to learn the snow had softened enough to ruin their snow sports. A number have been active skiing and sledding.

The friends of Dave Hutchins are glad to welcome him back from his trip to Mexico, where he visited his mother and other relatives.

Ted DeFord returned January 24 from beyond Klamath Falls, where he had gone on a business trip. He was detained by the snowfall and had several days until the roads were opened before he could return.

Sams Valley high school basketball teams played Prospect teams at Sams Valley gym January 18. The winning score went to Sams Valley's first team and Prospect's second team. The town teams also had a game the same evening. It was a close game with the Sams Valley team winner.

The high school teams played Eagle Point at the latter place Jan. 25 (with Eagle Point winning first team and Sams Valley winning second). They played Phoenix teams at Sams Valley gym Jan. 29 and both local teams won.

The three cooking clubs will meet next week. Through the cooperation of the teachers we have been able to arrange the club meetings so all those who come to school can take the clubs if they wish. This is a

great convenience to several members and the increased enrollment makes it nicer for all and all members and leaders greatly appreciate the teachers making this possible.

Economic Highlights

Happenings That Affect the Dinner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills of Every Individual. National and International Problems Inseparable from Local Welfare.

According to the old saying, "The mills of the gods grind slowly—but they grind exceedingly fine."

That adage can be accurately applied to the present Congress, as it considers the President's new recovery and relief program. It is moving slowly, it is talking a good deal, and it is gradually grinding out legislation toward the two principal projects of the White House—social security and an unprecedentedly vast public works program, designed to eliminate the dole.

The public works program is of the most immediate interest. It will cost \$4,000,000,000—the largest draft ever drawn against the United States Treasury for any single purpose. It will put about 3,500,000 men to work directly. And if the President's hopes materialize it will put another 3,500,000 to work indirectly, in jobs created by the spending power of the first 3,500,000.

Equally important are the promised principles upon which the program is predicated. All work is to be useful, in that it will either permanently improve living conditions or create new wealth. Pay for workers will be above the present "dole" level—but will be low enough so that the men employed will still keep an eye out for jobs in private business. Projects will be selected so as to use the largest possible amount of labor for the money spent. The money will be allocated on the basis of the greatest need—that is, a state which has 20 per cent of its people on relief will get more than a state which has but ten per cent on relief. It is said the public works program will avoid competition with private enterprise, which is justifiably jittery about government activities in the industrial field.

The list of possible public works has not been completed, but a number are known. Public buildings will be one. Bridge building will be another. Soil conservation and sanitation will come in for their share, as will tunnels, flood dams and forest conservation. Road building will naturally be near the head of the list.

There was considerable dissatisfaction in Congress over the fact that the President wants the public works money under his control—Congressmen wanted to distribute it themselves. However, this idea seems to be definitely out—allocation of funds will be in the jurisdiction of the White House, through a board appointed by the President. So far as the social security pro-

gram is concerned, it is finding rather hard going. It seems that every Congressman has his own idea as to how the ill, the aged and the unemployed should be aided—there is much argument, many words and little agreement. By the time this is read, the so-called Townsend Plan, whereby every person over 50 would be given \$200 a month by the government, will probably have been introduced in the lower house—proponents of the plan claim enough supporters to get it through. The President's influence, however, will be thrown aggressively against it, and in favor of a much more moderate policy.

Business reports are encouraging. The country is experiencing gradual improvement in about every line of endeavor.

Trade, according to Dun & Bradstreet, is rising above the levels of 1930 and 1931. Where, at the beginning of 1932, that company's business activity index stood at 50.1 it now touches 74—a gain of 45 per cent. This increase is largely due to retail distribution gains, which are 5 per cent above last year in New England, 8 to 12 per cent up on the Pacific Coast and 20 to 30 per cent improved in the Middle West, with the balance of the country showing rises from 12 to 15 per cent. Reports from grain and livestock markets are also encouraging.

Steel production is at 44 per cent of capacity—a gain over recent levels. It is still advancing. Electric power production shows some gains. The construction industry, long dormant, is showing signs of recovery, due principally to the activities of the Housing Administration which after a slow start, seems to be gathering momentum in its drive to make people build and renovate their homes.

A recent Annalist statement, sent out over the financial wires, said,

Only 2 More Days To Take Advantage of the Baldwin Piano Sale
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In effect, that all matters of interest to business are overshadowed by the possibilities inherent in the Supreme Court's forthcoming decision on the gold seizure act. It seems sure, however, that quick remedial action will be taken if the Court holds against the government—Congress is prepared for an adverse decision, and bills are already drafted in case it again becomes necessary to revamp our money system.

SUMMONS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON IN AND FOR JACKSON COUNTY.

JACKSON COUNTY BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, an Oregon building and loan corporation, Plaintiff,

vs.
MINERVA HOLLINS HUTCHINS and E. P. HUTCHINS, her husband; D. L. REED, also known as L. D. REED, and RUTH REED, husband and wife; D. E. MILLARD and SYLVIA MILLARD, husband and wife; also all other persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in or to the real estate described in the Complaint on file herein, Defendants.

TO D. L. REED, also known as L. D. REED, and RUTH REED, husband and wife; also all other persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in or to the real estate described herein,

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON, you and each of you are hereby required to appear and answer the Complaint of the Plaintiff on file herein against you, or otherwise plead thereto, within four (4) weeks from the date of the first publication of this Summons.

You are hereby notified that if you fail to appear and answer the Complaint of the Plaintiff as required herein, or otherwise plead thereto, Plaintiff will take a Decree against you for the relief demanded in said Complaint, which is succinctly stated as follows, to-wit: For a judgment against the Defendants D. L. Reed,

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Phone 47 428 W. 6th St. Medford, Oregon

also known as L. D. Reed, and Ruth Reed, husband and wife, for the sum of \$435.71, plus interest at the rate of 10% per annum from the 12th day of August, 1932, plus \$75.00 attorney's fees, plus \$2.50 for insurance premium, plus \$5.00 for continuation of abstract of title, plus all Plaintiff's costs and disbursements hereinafter to be taxed, plus interest on said judgment at the rate of 10% per annum from the date of the decree herein, and that said Decree and Judgment be held a first and prior lien upon the following described property, situated and being in the County of Jackson, State of Oregon, to-wit:

Lot seven (7) Block three (3) of the Sunnyside Addition to the City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon, as the same is designated and described on the official plat thereof, now of record.

And for a further decree foreclosing Plaintiff's mortgage against the real property hereinabove described.

This Summons is published in The American, Central Point, Oregon, by order of the Honorable H. D. Norton, Judge of the above entitled Court, duly made on the 9th day of January, 1935.

The date of the first publication of this Summons is the 10th day of January, 1935.

GLENN O. TAYLOR,
O. H. BENTSON,
Attorneys for Plaintiff,
126 East Main Street,
Medford, Oregon.

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