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BEAVERTON ENTERPRISE

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ROGER W. BABSON STATE LEGISLATIVE TOPICS

**Babson Discusses
Luxury Taxes**

Italy and Greece might have turned to England for assistance. But, under the circumstances, they are asking the U. S. Italy's government warns us of the communistic danger in the offering if the U. S. does not provide the Italians with more aid in food and money. Certainly, we are between two fires: If we don't loan, Europe will go communistic; while if we loan too much, unemployment will develop in the U. S. and strengthen communism here at home.

Self Reliance—An Ideal
It would be unhealthy for any nation to acquire the feeling that it can always turn to us for material aid. A nation strengthens itself as it works out its own difficulties. The ravages of war have made it necessary for the United States to send food to many nations. Germany, Austria, India and China are among the most hungry today, having more than a 20 per cent cut in their normal diet. They are worse off than France, Italy or even Greece. Among the defeated nations it is important to create domestic self-sufficiency lest they become a permanent drain on the resources of others. MacArthur is wisely asking Washington to allow the Japanese funds for shipbuilding to permit a revival of their fishing industry. He also believes that limitations on Japanese industry should be lifted, to help Japan work toward domestic self-sufficiency at last.

How to Raise Needed Funds
The real question is not whether we send these hundreds of millions abroad as ex-President Hoover recommends. We simply must do so or someday the entire world will gang up against us. We, in the U. S., cannot long continue living the "life of Riley" while the rest of the world is on the verge of starvation. The only question facing us today is how this money should be raised.

The answer to me is very simple: Increase the luxury taxes on liquor, tobacco, night clubs, expensive clothing, jewelry, etc. This will both give the necessary funds and put some sense into our people. Some will say such increased taxes would throw a few of our people temporarily out of work. Perhaps so; but I doubt it. Besides we are short of labor to make for us the essentials which we are lacking—in needed food, clothing and shelter.

"Here's my bill," said the surgeon. "Wish you would pay down \$100 and then \$25 per week."
"Sounds like buying an automobile," said the patient.
"I am," said the surgeon.

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Vets' Mail Bag

As a service to veterans in the community, this newspaper will publish a weekly column of questions most frequently asked contact men of the Veterans Administration in this area. For more detailed information, veterans are to contact or write to the nearest V. A. contact unit at 614 S. W. 11th, Portland.

National GI Loan Trend
Reversing a national trend in which requests for G. I. loans have hit the lowest level since last April, Northwest veterans received 2124 guaranteed or insured loans during February, compared to 1883 approved during January, the Veterans Administration reports.

By the end of February, 23,566 Northwest veterans had received loans totaling \$108,210,891. Veterans wanting G. I. loans should go directly to a bank, savings and loan association or other lending agency, the VA says. The VA is responsible only for certifying the veteran's eligibility and for guaranteeing or insuring payment to lending agencies, in case of default, up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the total.

Questions of the Week
Q. I recently lost my job and can't meet the payments on my G. H. home loan. Am I entitled to readjustment allowance provided by the G. I. Bill?
A. Your home loan has no bearing on your right to unemployment compensation. Apply at your state unemployment service for a readjustment allowance.

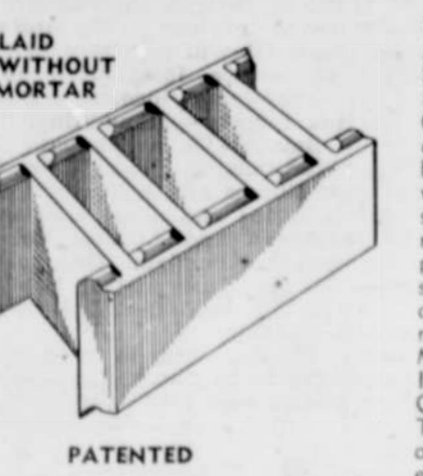
Q. May I arrange for the Veterans Administration to deduct my National Service Life Insurance premiums from the disability compensation check I receive each month?
A. Yes. You may go to your VA regional office or contact office and fill out a form which will authorize the Veterans Administration to make the deduction from your compensation check.

Benefits to World War II Veterans and Their Dependents
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THE LAWMAKERS AT SALEM

BY Vernon Williams

State Capitol, Salem, Oregon, March 19th, 1947. Well folks, in a couple of days Spring will be here—Tra-la-lala—and also the Legislature. In fact it begins to look like the lawmakers will be rolling Easter eggs around the State House lawn, before they quit and go home. None of the political seers can see adjournment before March 29th, and many are of the opinion this session stands a good chance of going on and on, until April 5th.

Practically all of the major legislation which has been introduced this session, is now just starting its long trek through the House and Senate. Inasmuch as many of these bills are of the controversial variety, it is only natural that they will cause much oratory to flow in both Houses, and that takes time. Hence, the Wise Men believe this session stands a good chance of going on until the wee, small hours of Easter Sunday morning, which is April 6th.

The recent Supreme Court decision, which held that the counties do not have to abide by the budget requirements for old age assistance as set by the State Welfare Commission, has gummed up the legislative machinery on Welfare. Now the lawmakers must pass legislation which coincides with the Supreme Court decision, and also meet the requirements of the Federal Security Board, or lose federal aid of close to \$17,000,000. This hot subject alone, is enough to keep the boys and girls working day and night for another two or three weeks.

The lawmakers have been working for "free" since March 4th, which is mighty expensive for many of them, say the least. There is a rumor around the State House corridors to the effect that a movement will be started to try and adjourn this session of the Legislature sine die as soon as possible, with the thought that the Governor will call a special session to follow immediately. In that event, the lawmakers would again be back on the payroll for another 20 day period, which is the duration of a special session. Such a movement would give the legislators ample time to clean up the slate and pay them their \$8 a day, which is no more than expenses, and the majority of them need it.

Scheduled to be thrashed out on the floor of the House or Senate this week, is the 3 per cent sales tax, a flock of other tax bills and several other hot measures. Labor Unions are almost sure to have their wings clipped by this legislature. Bills to outlaw the closed shop and prohibit secondary boycotts, which have been in Committee for many weeks, have just hit the floor for debate. Cloakroom gossip has it, they will pass in some form. Many state legislatures now in session have passed bills affecting labor in one way or another. To date, 12 states have passed laws barring the closed shop and 8 other states have such legislation pending, including Oregon.

During the long series of committee hearings on the 3 per cent sales tax bill, it was forcibly brought out that thousands of Oregon citizens successfully duck the state income tax, whereas they couldn't duck a sales tax. It was also called to the attention of the lawmakers, and several specific cases were cited, where prominent and wealthy Portland citizens have moved their residence over to Vancouver, thereby escaping the state income tax. However, these same "good citizens" still maintain their places of business in Oregon. This same gang also successfully bent the sales tax in Washington by buying all of their groceries, clothing, etc. in Oregon. So some of the big shots get us coming and going. That's what we call scoring heavily for the common people.

Views From The Press Gallery
It's easy to see that the lawmakers in both Houses are getting weary from the long grind. . . . Tempers and nerves are on the ragged edge. . . . and the beautiful weather during the past week has spurred on "the I want to go home feeling". . . . As a rule, this late in any session finds practically all of the lobbyists at home. . . . But not this session. . . . They are still here. . . . And will be until they ring down the curtain. . . . The teachers and their bellwethers are still around. . . . Plus the big truck men, fish people and labor leaders galore. . . . And everyone has Spring fever. . . . Many ex-legislators sit in the gallery and watch the proceedings attentively. . . . Including many Democrats who lost out at the last election. . . . But from the way this session is going, their chances should enhance considerably come 1949.

The Low Down From Hickory Grove

I just been reading some news about Shasta dam. It is not doing so skookum. It is one of Uncle Samuel's ventures there in California. The boys there, doing the job for the Govt., they say that only a half of the planned kilowatts can be furnished until they get more rain. They forgot to figure a drought could happen.

And while there is a shortage at Shasta, the folks running the private outfit nearby, they say for their customers to be calm—there is no shortage on their side of the street.

In time the truth comes out. Some of the wind is being removed from the sails of the boys who argue that the Govt. should get into the electric and dam business, bigger and bigger.

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