

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Tax Reduction Way
- Auto License Plates
- Apathetic Election

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem.—Tax relief, if any is to be had this year, will have to come at the expense of local levies which, after all, represent 83 percent of the state's total tax load.

State taxes over which the legislature has any control, represent only ten percent of the total tax bill and special levies voted by the people account for the remaining seven percent.

Diversion of the excess revenue from the income taxes to offset additional levies against property requires legislative action and without a special session cannot be reflected in the tax bill before the levy for the fiscal year of 1943-44.

Of the \$41,645,294 levied for local purposes in 1941, 45 percent or \$19,031,567 went toward the support of the public school system.

Another \$11,374,234.70, or 27.5 percent of the total, was levied by cities, towns and port districts.

General county purposes accounted for a total of \$5,475,212, or 13 percent of the total local levy and county road levies took another \$2,659,660.41 or 6.5 percent.

Payment of interest and redemption of matured bonds accounted for another \$1,889,273 or 4.5 percent of the total and the balance is represented by levies by irrigation and drainage districts, water districts, etc.

Oregon automobiles will continue to wear their old 1942 license plates next year in the interest of the conservation of steel so badly needed for national defense. Renewal of the license, however, will be indicated by windshield stickers bearing the same number as the license plates. Secretary of State Earl Snell estimates that the use of stickers will result in a saving of nearly \$55,000

over the cost of the metal plates. Last year, Snell points out, 190 tons of sheet metal went into Oregon's license plates.

The state training school for boys was given a clean bill of health in a report by the Marion county grand jury this week. Acting on a complaint filed with the district attorney last March the grand jury visited the institution and questioned a number of inmates and employees. As a result of this investigation the jury found the "complaints to be unjustified, the inmates well cared for, the buildings in good shape and the officials of said institution capable and competent." The nature of the complaint was not revealed.

A total of 193,761 men and women are now enrolled in civilian defense units in Oregon, according to Governor Sprague. Of this number 68,658—46,247 men and 22,421 women—have been assigned to the protective services such as air raid wardens, auxiliary police and firemen, demolition and clearance crews, rescue squads and similar units.

Friday's primary election brings to a close one of the most apathetic political campaigns in Oregon's history. What with the world at war and the absence of any issue to attract their attention it has been impossible to arouse the voters to even a semblance of enthusiasm over the fate of the many candidates who are offering their services to the public.

Chief interest in the election among such of those as have shown any interest at all, centers in the contest for the republican nomination for governor with Governor Charles A. Sprague who is seeking a second term opposed by Secretary of State Earl Snell who wants to replace him. Claims of both camps to victory for their candidate can be laid to wishful thinking with the outcome definitely in doubt.

The same can be said of the Democratic gubernatorial race with Howard Latourette and Lew Wallace battling it out for the nomination and Grover C. Fretwell, the third candidate, an "also ran."

While local contests are expected to bring out a sizeable vote in some communities the prediction is still for one of the lightest turn-outs in

HARDMAN NEWS

Hardman Registers 174 for Sugar Cards

By ELSA M. LEATHERS

With all four teachers and Mrs. Carey Hastings, grade school clerk, assisting last week there were 174 persons registered for sugar.

Mr. and Mrs. Duff McKittrick and son and Walt McKittrick returned from North Dakota where they have spent several weeks visiting the boys' parents and other members of the family. They have three brothers being inducted into the army in May.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster Collins have returned to their home at Camas prairie from the Ball ranch on Rhea creek where they spent the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Saling and Oregon's history with probably not more than 40 percent of the registrants availing themselves of the voting privilege.

Financial concerns and printers and publishers reaped the greatest benefits under the experience rating provision of the unemployment compensation act, according to a report by the commission.

The busy little bee of the honey making variety is not to be deprived of its normal quota of sugar, rationing or no rationing. The state department of agriculture has been advised that under revised regulations bee-keepers may obtain sugar for feeding their bees by making application in proper form. Due to the lateness of the season many Oregon bee-keepers are said to be still feeding their colonies.

Sale of 20,209 pounds of cascara bark from the Elliot State Forest is reported by the state forestry department. The \$653.49 received from this sale went to enrich the state's irreducible school fund as do all revenues from this forest.

The ban against log hauling on Saturday afternoons and Sundays during the vacation season is off for the duration. Governor Sprague has asked the highway commission to lift this ban in the interest of greater production by the lumber industry in order to meet military requirements.

If Harold L. Ickes, petroleum coordinator, heeds the advice of Secretary of State Earl Snell, Oregon motorists will not be restricted in the gasoline purchases, for a while at least. Snell, in a telegram to Ickes pointed out that storage facilities in the northwest are now filled to capacity with more than 1,000,000 gallons of gasoline and other light petroleum products arriving in Oregon daily. Gasoline curtailment in this area is absolutely unnecessary in Snell's opinion.

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TRAFFIC TIPS AND QUIPS



family visited Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McDonald here Sunday from Pendleton. They brought Creston O. Robinson over to visit his parents and friends until Thursday. He is a corporal and in June will be made sergeant.

Miss Maxene McDaniel is ill at their home at Reed's mill.

Mrs. San McDaniel, Jr., Joe Mahon and Maxene McDaniel were Pendleton visitors Saturday.

Miss Nona Inskeep went to the Ruby Kincaid home to work last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam McDaniel, Sr., and Mrs. Carey Hastings and girls and Mrs. Owen Leathers were dinner guests Sunday with Mrs. Ella Bleakman at Reed's mill.

Neal Knighten was attending to business in Pendleton the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Leathers and daughter Jeanne spent Sunday at Monument with Mrs. Holly Leathers and other relatives.

Mrs. Leon Chapin has been on the sick list. She is able to be up and about again.

Mr. and Mrs. Hershall Townsend drove over from Stanfield Sunday to take Mrs. Ella Bleakman home with them. Mrs. Raymond McDonald and children came with them from Dr. McMurdo's hill ranch. All returned to their homes Sunday evening.

Mrs. C. H. McDaniel moved to Reed's mill this week to cook for her son, Everett Hadley.

Mrs. Austin Devin is at Pendleton with her husband, who is seriously ill at the St. Anthony's hospital.

Carey Hastings returned from Lewiston, Idaho, with the Henry Hapgood shearing crew Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl McDaniel and daughter visited Mrs. Owen Leathers a short time Monday from Lone-rock. Mrs. Kinard McDaniel visited other relatives.

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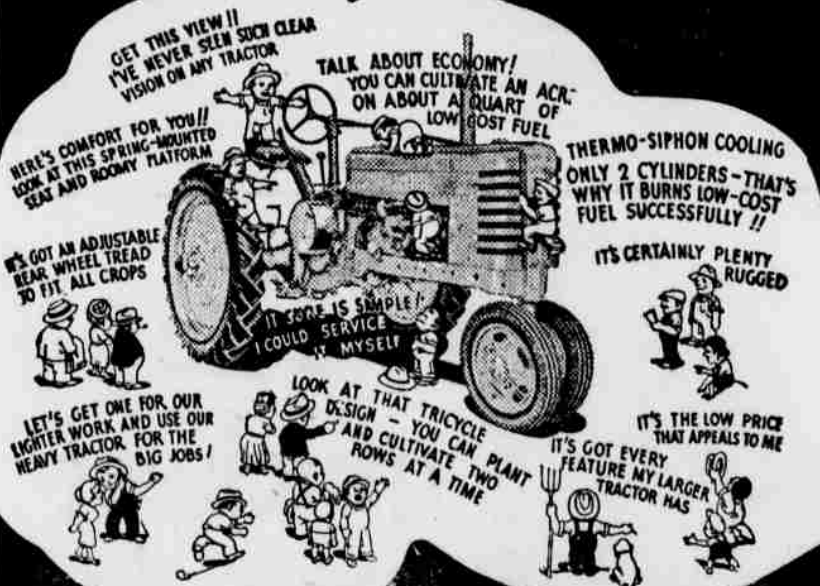
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