

Heppner Gazette Times

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TO THE EDITOR...

To The Editor:

Now that the referendum has been placed against the tax program passed by the recent Legislature, perhaps the public will understand why the Senate and I tried to hold down expenditures at the recent session.

I have been severely criticized by the teachers and others connected with education for not pushing an increase in the basic school support. Early in the year, I stated that I felt the public did not want any increase in taxes, would not stand for them, and undoubtedly would refer any increased tax program, if enacted by the Legislature. When one was passed it became necessary to keep down the expenditures so that if it was referred the state would not be in a financial crisis. Unfortunately higher education's salaries and other state employees' salaries had to be held at only a slight increase to accomplish this purpose.

During the session I put in a bill which was co-signed by many Democrats and Republicans which would have referred to the people the question of whether or not they wanted a sales tax for education and at the same time would have reduced their property and income taxes. Had the people been allowed to vote on this question, which had never been submitted to them in this form before, then the next Legislature would have had a mandate on how they should proceed to tax people in the way they might desire. It is my opinion that the Legislature should not make this decision for them. If they voted against this bill, the only alternative would have been to increase the income taxes approximately fifty percent. Contrary to the statements made by some members of my party, neither I nor the other Democrats signing the bill were advocating a sales tax. We simply wanted to use the Democratic method of letting the people vote on a proposition of how they should be taxed. In my opinion no legislator has the right to tell the people they have to be taxed by the method he personally favors.

On practically every major question concerning the rights of the people in the state of Oregon they have been allowed to vote on the proposition. Certainly taxes are not something to muzzle the people's voices and restrict their voting privileges. At a matter of fact legislators usually receive very little mail regarding taxes. Personally I received over 800 letters from those connected with and interested in education wanting an increase in the basic school support but no suggestions as to how to finance it. I received less than 100 letters regarding taxes. Over 300 letters were received from persons interested in retaining trading stamps. As a result of this correspondence, I felt that the only time the public ever expresses its opinion regarding taxes is at the polls. This was what we who sponsored this bill had in mind in submitting it to the people.

As a result of this referendum, I feel that the next session should call for a special election where the people will have the

From The County Agent's Office

By N C ANDERSON

FAIR TIPS

We have pled and urged our farm and homemakers to enter the educational competition of our county fair year after year. This has paid off with a larger number of exhibits entered in 1959 than ever before. We hope that there will be an increase in 1959. We have asked for many grain exhibits in a good harvest such as this year and have urged that our hay raisers pick a fine bale out for exhibit.

One division that continues to draw a lot of interest is that of fruits and vegetables. In this division everyone can exhibit whether they have a few square feet of garden or quite an acreage. Since there are many questions asked each year about the preparation of these exhibits we are going to devote a part of this week's column to some of the things to take into consideration in preparing these exhibits to get the most blue ribbons.

Here goes. Apples should be polished, uniform in size, shape and color and free from insect and disease damage. The stems should be left on. The same applies to Pears. Peaches should be clean, average size or above, uniformly shaped and colored according to the variety. They should be free from all injury. Plums and Prunes should have the stems and bloom left on. Other characteristics the same as above. Grapes should have the bloom on and the stem well filled out with above average sized grapes. Berries should be large, fresh, uniform and free from insect and insect injury.

Beans, clean, straight, full, tender pods of good color and free from strings or damage of any kind. Beets should have one to two inches of the top left on. They should have a good deep red uniform color and be smooth and round with a small, clean

question put to them as to what manner of taxation they want. If this is not done I am afraid that any tax measure passed by them will be referred much easier as a result of this last referendum on the subject. It is my opinion that the people should be given a choice as to whether they want to pay the necessary taxes under such a sales tax bill as we wanted them to vote on, a fifty percent increase in the present income taxes, or the Hatfield plan of putting a gross tax on wages and salaries and eliminating all exemptions in the income taxes. It is quite evident that future legislatures will be much more cautious in increasing any expenditures for fear a referendum will be put on any tax program. It is very fine to economize but there are very necessary expenses that have to be paid — schools — welfare — institutions — government expenses — services. If these things are to be continued at their present high levels of service and expenses, the people must make a choice on how they want to pay for them.

Cordially yours,
Walter J Pearson
President of the Senate

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the files of the Gazette-Times
August 22, 1929

Mr and Mrs J E O'Dell and son from Portland, friends of the Ed Dick family, spent Monday and Tuesday in Ione.

Eighty tons of grain hay, a straw stack and considerable range was consumed by fire at the O'Connor Bros Skinner creek farm Sunday afternoon.

The David A Wilson and Alva Jones families departed Sunday morning in their cars for a vacation of a week or ten days to be spent at Rockaway beach.

The J A Troedson family of Morgan expect to leave shortly for a year's visit in Pennsylvania, having leased their farm for that period.

F A Lundell of Ione was completely surprised Saturday, August 17, when twenty-eight of his friends and relatives came to spend the afternoon with him. The occasion was his eighty-first birthday.

stem, cut short and be uniform in shape, have a hard shell, free from blemish and typical of the variety. Tomatoes are shown without stems. They should have a bright, clean uniform color, with no cracks or other defects. The specimens should be uniform in size and typical of the variety. Above average size is best. Watermelons should be firm, smooth, clean, mature and typical of the variety.

Winning Exhibits are:

1. Attractive, and of high quality.
2. Uniform in shape, color, and size.
3. Typical of the variety.
4. Size should be larger than average as a rule.
5. Free from blemish of any kind.
6. Clean but usually not washed.
7. Mature or at the best state for eating.
8. Type, that which the market demands.

We'll see your fruits and vegetables at the fair. We hope you take home a lot of ribbons.

A group of upper Rhea Creek ranchers have declared war on one of our perennial noxious weed which threatens to spread rapidly through out the county. The weed is Canada thistle. Beginning in 1957 Canada thistle infestations were sprayed on the Harold Wright ranch near Ruggs. Follow up was continued in 1958 and Dallas McDaniels further up the creek sprayed his small patches. Catching on this year, Darrel Harris has sprayed his entire place. Harold Peck in the same vicinity has inquired at the office on recommendations and it is our understanding that he is planning a program on Canada thistle infestations on his holdings on Rhea Creek. A at the office to request that the few days ago Floyd Jones called county sprayer spray his thistles as soon as enough regrowth has occurred in his stubble. Attempts are being made to clean up all Canada thistle infestations in the higher elevations before they become more wide spread. Near 100% control is being had with an application of 8 pounds of amino Trizole per acre. It is necessary the next year to follow up on spots that might not have received a full coverage or missed spots. Cost of materials run considerably less than other noxious weed control, costing \$20.00 per acre for material. 50% of the cost is available through the ACP federal cost-share program. Application for this assistance need to be made at the county ASC office before the practice is performed.

Potatoes should be typical of the variety, uniform in all respects, clean, but not washed and of a medium to large size. Pumpkins have square stems and should have short stems on them. They should be uniform in color, shape, size and a medium to large size. Rhubarb, if shown, should be fresh with one to two inches of top left on and be straight, bright colored and uniform. Stalks should be pulled not cut. Squash should be divided into two or more categories. Summer squash must be tender, free from hard seeds and representative of the variety. Winter squash should have a round

Beef Preferences Among Consumers Surveyed by OSC

What families look for in buying beef may be told in a survey of 6,000 food shoppers conducted by Oregon State College. The survey is part of a four-year study on consumer beef preferences.

As they shopped, consumers were asked to view certain beef cuts and rate them on a nine-point scale ranging from "like extremely" to "do not like." Their ratings are now being weighed

Newt O'Harra, Lexington rancher stopped at the office this week to visit about recommended practices for handling stubble in the fall. Mr O'Harra like many other ranchers feels while his stubble is not nearly so heavy as a year ago that by using some type of implement this fall it will be much easier to make summerfallow in the spring. Newt expects to try to use his rotary hoes and if they will not break the straw enough, a rotary cutter. While in the office we visited with him about his cattle, some of which he has been marketing lately. One small bunch of light calves averaged 444 pounds. We thought this was an exceptional rate for calves weaned in early August, however, Newt has sold a lot of 550 pound calves off of his irrigated pasture over the past few years.

From a recent Production, Price and Cost Review report from Oregon State College we find that overseas, the Australian government has announced a more liberal policy on import quotas from dollar areas. Discriminatory restrictions on imports from the United States and Canada were eliminated August 1. This action opens the Australian dollar market to dollar goods on a non-discriminatory basis for practically all products except motor vehicles and timber.

Australia intends to proceed with orderly removal of remaining restrictions. Official Australian estimates indicate in that country's total imports. This move also greatly improves the opportunities for the U S firms from other countries for sales in the Australian market. It permits the import of many U S consumer goods which have been available in Australia for many years.

FACE OF A FUGITIVE, a good western in color, plus MACABRE, a scary one for thrill fans. Star Theater, Thursday-Friday-Saturday.



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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

A Real "Novel" Idea

Had a call from Whitley Fisher, head of the Town Library's Emergency Committee. He's asked me to explain the situation.

This is the "emergency." The Library's moving into its new building next week—over on Bridge Street. Moving all those books will cost more than \$200. At that rate we won't be able to afford any new books for a couple of years.

Whitley's got the solution—have everyone in town borrow at least five books, keep them

a week, and return them to the new address!

From where I sit, cooperation among neighbors is the life-blood of a town. People should work together... whether it's to help a library or fight intolerance. For instance, if you'll respect my right to an occasional glass of beer—and I respect the beverage of your choice... that kind of cooperation will do lots to help wipe intolerance "off the books."

Joe Marsh

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