

THE HERMISTON HERALD

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NO TAX CUT

After due deliberation the county court has decided to adopt the budget prepared by the budget committee. This means that the recommendations of the Umatilla county taxpayers' league will not be accepted and that the proposed tax cut will not be made.

The levy for state and county purposes was 15.5 mills last year and will be 17 mills next year. The increase is partly for state purposes and partly for the Til Taylor murder reward.

The county is paying a lot of money in taxes and the burden is very heavy to all. Some have believed it necessary to reduce that burden even at the expense of doing away with some of the useful activities of the county government. Others insisted that the time has not come to go back and they prevailed.

This paper believed and still believes that the proposed tax cut would have been a bad thing. It opposes the elimination of the county agent home demonstration agent and it opposed the proposal to reduce the fund available for county roads.

If the budget could be cut without greater loss to the county we were for such a cut. The county court feels that such a cut cannot be made and

it is probably right. At any rate we are going ahead in the same constructive way we have always gone ahead and it is not likely that we will regret it. But the county officers and others who get public money should be impressed with the taxpayers position. He is willing to pay the costs but he wants good service and his public servants should see that he gets it.

WHEN

Newport (N. H.) Argus and Spectator

When the stomach stops digestin' to save the gastric juices.

When the hangman fails to hang 'em to save wear on the nooses.

When the merchant burns the tallow dip to save his kilowatts.

And the housewife cooks in china to save the tins and pots.

When the hunter shoots with peanuts to save expensive bullets.

And the farmer keeps his hens nine years to save 'im raising pullets.

Then 'tis time the prudent merchant-diser finds that he is wise.

When he saves his hard simoleons and doesn't advertise.

MISTAKEN ECONOMY

Weston Leader

While we sympathize with the mo-

tives of the Umatilla County Taxpayers' League in recent convention assembled at Pendleton, we do not altogether approve of its acts. We consider it wholly wrong in recommending to the county court that the office of county agriculturist be abolished. The present able and active holder of that position, Mr. Fred Bennion, is engaged in constructive work of positive value to Umatilla county many times the amount of his salary. To dispense with his services in order to save a few thousand dollars a year will be a step backward that Umatilla county cannot afford. In the single instance of the development of the seed potato on Weston mountain, and this is only one of his many-sided and ever-useful activities, Mr. Bennion will have added and in fact is adding to Umatilla county's resources productive wealth compared to which his salary is a mere bagatelle. In view of the fact that numerous largely-signed petitions will come to the court from every section of the county urging that Mr. Bennion be retained, and the fact that the proposal to abolish his office was approved at the taxpayers' meeting by only a slight margin and obviously without careful consideration we feel that the county court will be wholly justified in keeping this faithful and competent servant on the payroll. Parsimony, although masquerading as economy, will never get us anywhere.

OREGON PRESS COMMENT

This year's total tax in Eugene will be six-tenths of a mill higher than last year's. Somebody ought to show the tax spenders the road back to normalcy.—Eugene Register.

Let's junk the navies of the world and then let's beat a few swords into plowshares. Let's get rid of the navy and the army both. If one is useless the other is needless.—Benton County Courier.

After reading reports of storm damage in various parts of the Northwest and the closing of the Columbia highway by snow and ice for an indefinite time, everyone fortunate enough to live in this community should be very thankful.—Wheeler Reporter.

To a large extent our local schools

come up to the standard set. And it is a pleasure to know, as we all do, that without reference to the set observances of any particular week the teaching of Americanism is going on in them all the time.—Bend Bulletin.

As those mentioned for the governor job are on the increase, it begins to look like politics was being played from most all corners of the state. Each new man mentioned has something to say about taxes, knowing that to be a popular topic all the time. But it is an old, awful old, gag to spring year after year.—Aurora Observer.

If to be under fire entitled them to compensation various county officials would certainly be earning the salary increases they didn't get.—Athens Press.

JOURNALISTIC DISCRETION

Birmingham Age-Herald

"I presume you occasionally point out to your neighbors the error of their ways?"

"No, said the editor of the Chiggersville Clarion. "When I was a younger man I was pretty good in a rough-and-tumble argument but hard work and close confinement have made me physically unfit for that sort of exercise. Nowadays when I want to pour vitriol on somebody I pick out a public character so far removed from Chiggersville that none of my readers will feel like dropping into the sanctum and trying to use me for a floor mop."

BRIEF AND TO THE POINT

The trouble with a lot of wives is that, if given rope enough, they skip it.—Burlington News.

Our idea of a rich man is one who can smoke a fifteen-cent cigar without wishing it had been given to him.—Dallas News.

The woman who once spanked her son for smoking cigarettes now spanks her grandson for stealing her cigarettes.—Johnstown Democrat.

A bull may not be very intelligent but he understood the red flag long before the rest of the world.—Wheeling Intelligencer.

Another reason why we try to do the lion's share of the work is because lions don't work.—Dallas News.



Plan This Winter

BUILD IN THE SPRING

All indications show that lumber prices have reached rock bottom. There are so many new homes needed that it is only reasonable to expect building costs to increase with spring demand.

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Building material prices may come down more—we think not—but every day you delay in getting the new garage deprives you of the use of it, and causes you to pay out money for garage rent.

Every day you delay roofing the barn and the home, makes your property more liable to damage from storm. Every day you put off inside repairs the trouble increases and the total expense becomes greater.

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Come in today and let us figure your job. Begin getting the benefit now.

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