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The Sales Tax and the Farmer

IN another column of this paper, a correspondent, opposed to the sales tax, asks where the farmer will get off if the sales tax is passed.

His answer is the farmer "will pay more tax than he ever did before."

Why? Because "with 81 percent of the former property tax to pay and a new tax on all the food, clothing, lumber, farm implements and machinery, passed on to him by the retailer," his tax bill will be larger than if the sales tax fails.

We feel sure if the writer will carefully study the provisions of the sales tax, he will change his opinion.

TAKE the case of a dairy farmer for example. He now pays his property tax,—or tries to. Let's assume that tax is \$100 a year—a very low estimate. He also pays his personal property tax,—a tax on his cows, farm implements, his growing crops, etc., etc. Place that amount, for the sake of argument, at another \$100.

If the sales tax passes, his personal tax of \$100 will be eliminated entirely. According to the best estimates available his real property tax will be reduced from 20 to 30 percent.

Take the lower figure. He will then save \$20 on his land tax, \$100 on his personal tax, or a TOTAL saving of \$120.

NOW to offset that saving he will have to pay his sales tax,—that is 2 percent on his cash purchases,—ASSUMING AS OUR CORRESPONDENT DOES THAT THIS ENTIRE 2 PERCENT will not be absorbed by the retailer, but passed on to the consumer.

Let's assume the farmer in question spends an average of \$100 per month, on food, NEW clothing, NEW farm implements, etc., etc.—under present conditions, when the farmer has little extra cash,—a high figure. This would represent a total of \$1200 a year.

This farmer's sales tax would therefore be \$24. The reduction in his land tax, and elimination of his personal property tax would be \$120,—or a net annual tax saving to him of \$96.

AS has been repeatedly stated in this column the sales tax is made for the farmer. Under its provisions he is bound to win—he is in fact made a preferred creditor.

In addition to the advantages noted above, all sales the farmer in question might make, to a creamery in milk, or to a wholesaler or retailer, in hay or farm produce, would be exempt from the sales tax. He wouldn't pay a nickel.

We can understand why a retailer, large or small might oppose the sales tax. For he MUST pay the tax, and it may not appear as easy to him, as it does to Mr. Barton, to pass the tax entirely on to the consumer. With competition what it is, and the profit margin as low as it is, he might fret, he would have to absorb the tax, himself.

But how any farmer, understanding the sales tax, and what it means to him can be opposed to it, is simply beyond our comprehension.

WE are confident that those who DO understand it,—and have not been misled, by misinformation and prejudice,—WILL vote for it.

They are certainly not alive to their OWN SELF INTEREST, if they DON'T!

Wages First

"RAISE wages first, then prices!" This is what Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, the government's commander-in-chief for American industry, tells the captains, colonels and lieutenants as they throng to his office.

It is the humane way, because wages have sunk, in the last three years, to depths not experienced in this country for decades. Millions have been trying lately to live on starvation wages. Industries have been nearly ruined by the cut-throat competition of companies able to undersell honorable firms by producing goods out of the lifeblood of underpaid workers. There have been millions of men, women and children working for 10 to 20 cents an hour, or less.

THIS situation has not only tended to ruin industries themselves but to prolong and deepen the depression. It is pleasant to buy goods dirt-cheap, when people have little money to buy with; but starvation pay cuts down buying power, and the evil, if tolerated makes things worse for everybody. From it flow not only crushed industries but deteriorated goods, lower living standards, pauperism and disease that society has to pay for with reduced resources.

Put people back to work and pay them all you can—this is Johnson's method. He admits that the thing has never been tried before in just this way, but he believes it is going to work. He thinks, though he doesn't promise, that "We'll have several million more men back at work this summer."

Well, why not? But the banks, as well as the government, must help.

Communications

When They Wake Up

To the editor:

I notice you say politics makes strange bedfellows—the Oregon Retail Merchants' association, joining the farmers in fighting the sales tax. This is true. I saw a notice from the retailers association, telling everybody to vote the tax down. If the sales tax is to help the big retailer then why is the association against it?

But I know a funnier one. The organized labor boys in this state really got the Orange leaders who want votes to fight this sales tax. The Grangers fell for it, hook, line and sinker. And now these labor boys are out to sink the oleo tax which would really help the farmer, and watch them do it!

The farmers who vote this sales tax down will certainly kick themselves when they wake up and find how they were "gyped." They are certainly easy marks when it comes to politics. I am a farmer. I ought to know.

HARRY THOMAS, Ashland, July 10.

Says Farmer Will Pay More.

To the editor:

I have just read your article in Friday's paper concerning the sales

tax and wish to comment on some of the statements made therein.

You inferred that the large retail stores of the state would suffer the most from the new tax. Such is not the case—they will be benefited more than any other business or person in Oregon. The sales tax would be passed directly on to the purchaser of the goods—the consumer would pay!

Yet, the property tax on the place or places of business would be materially reduced if the present plans were put into effect. How, then, is a large store to suffer from this tax?

If the property tax is to be decreased, what will bear the burden of producing the revenue. The sales tax is designed to levy a tax on all retail purchases. As is proven above, the stores will not suffer, but will be benefited. The person who buys the merchandise will pay! As the tax is to raise as much money as was originally raised by the full property tax, and as the stores will not pay as much tax, the buyer must pay!

Where will the farmer get off with 81 per cent of the property tax to pay and a new tax levied on all the food, clothing, lumber and farm implements and machinery passed on to him by the retailer, he will pay more tax than he ever did before.

Someone might say that the tax would not be passed on by the retailer. It most certainly will—if the

Personal Health Service

By William Brady, M.D.

Signed letters pertaining to personal health and hygiene, not to disease diagnosis or treatment, will be answered by Dr. Brady if a stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed. Letters should be brief and written in ink. Owing to the large number of letters received only a few can be answered here. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address Dr. William Brady, 263 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Cal.

SO YOU'RE JUST WORKING ON YOUR NERVE, EH?



Shakespeare came nearer to the truth about neurasthenia than Dr. Beard himself or Freud and his followers.

Shakespeare came nearer to the truth about neurasthenia than Dr. Beard himself or Freud and his followers. The poet said that conscience makes cowards of us all. So you are nervous, are you? Well, what are you afraid of?

It is a common expression to say that a person has just been working on his nerve, or keeping up on his nerve and consequently his collapse or complete breakdown is natural. But that doesn't mean a thing actually. A person can no more work on his nerve or keep upon his nerve than he can do so on his bone or his muscle or his lung. If he happens to attempt any feat of endurance his nerve is subjected to no more strain than is his heart or his liver. He is no more to be admired or excused for working on his nerve than he is for working on his muscle.

Remember, please, that I am speaking in scientific terms and not in street parlance. Recently a prominent banker under indictment fled from a hospital or sanitarium where he was confined, and attempted suicide. According to a newspaper report, one of the physicians who had attended the man announced that the patient had been seriously ill for several years with a kidney lesion and disease of the blood vessels. The blood vessel disease had involved the brain structure and brought about impairment of memory, judgment and ability to transact business. The arteriosclerosis later developed a severe coronary thrombosis—these medical terms need not detain us—everybody knows arteriosclerosis means hardening of the arteries, and a few of the older boys know that coronary thrombosis means clotting of blood in one of the main arteries that carry blood to the heart muscle itself—which had culminated in an attack of angina pectoris a few months before the banker's indictment.

All that is straight and above-board. But the doctor who issued the statement to the press managed to inject a bit of characteristic hokum into it, for what purpose we may conjecture. Where he explained that the arteriosclerosis had involved the brain structure and brought about impairment of memory and judgment, the doctor interjected his trick phrase, to wit, "coupled with his great business anxiety." He might as well have said, "O, jury, please let us down easy."

store were to pay a 2 per cent tax on gross sales out of its present net earnings, where would it come out? Most of them would be forced out of business. They will simply add 2 per cent or more to the retail price of the goods.

Now, this passed on to him, the farmer will not be able to purchase the quantity of goods which he has purchased before. He must do without!

Here we have a reduction in the taxes of income-producing property and an increase to the cost of all commodities necessary to the livelihood of the people.

You compared the word "tax" to the prejudice against the "dentist." Such a comparison is unreasonable. The article stated that we never failed to benefit by the visit to the dentist and inferred that a tax would be the same. Is it? What about the property tax which has caused so much hardship?

If the sales tax were based upon ability to pay—by means of exempting purchases of each individual up to five or six hundred dollars per year—it would come nearer to being a fair tax.

HAROLD BARTON, Medford, July 10.

From Ex-Banks Employee To the Editor:

I have been a silent, but intensely interested spectator in the fight down there to undo some of the tentacles of misinformation wrapped around Jackson county by Banks through the medium of the sheet I so gratuitously helped further.

I'd like to put in a personal word of appreciation of the two-fisted way you have been going after "the gang" that thought it had the county by the throat at last. I hear considerable comment about your campaign around here.

Incidentally, it will take untold millions of dollars worth of chamber of commerce publicity to undo the harm to the county's good name. Portlanders are beginning to expect a murder a day from southern Oregon, thanks to people like Kingsley, Reed, Banks, Bowles, Barrier, Hanscomb and the rest of them.

ART SCHONEN, U. P. Night Bureau Manager Portland, Oregon, July 10.

Oregon Weather

Cloudy on the coast and otherwise fair tonight and Wednesday; cooler in interior of west portion Wednesday; gentle to moderate changeable winds offshore.

Last G. A. R. Man Dies SANTA BARBARA, Cal. July 11.—(AP)—Capt. Charles H. Carner, 94, last surviving member of the Colusa, Cal. post of the Grand Army of the Republic, died at his home here last night.

Bings Go East SALEM, Ore., July 11.—(AP)—The first Bing cherries shipped out of Salem this season by the cherry growers' association were today rolling toward Chicago.

Many cellar clip-joints in the 40's have no outside signs to invite the straying suckers. The gangster owners depend entirely upon night-hawk cabmen to deliver drunks to their

PRESIDENT'S SON GOES TO EUROPE



Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., who was graduated from Groton school this spring, sailed from New York for a two-months' trip to Europe, a graduation gift from his father, President Roosevelt. He was accompanied to the liner by his mother. Two boys who have been his school mates at Groton are making the trip with him. (Associated Press Photo)

A. A. A. CONTEST BOARD FINDS STANDARD ANTI-KNOCK UNSURPASSED



ABOVE—Scene during extensive road tests made by the A. A. A. Contest Board. The car approached a hill at 20 m.p.h. and at a signal was fully accelerated. Observations were made until speed dropped to 10 m.p.h. on a steep hill. These tests proved Standard Gasoline Anti-Knock unsurpassed.

Tackling the much debated subject of anti-knock performance of leading Pacific coast gasolines, the American Automobile association contest board announces that the results of its extensive road show Standard gasoline is unsurpassed. The anti-knock investigation is the fourth of a series authorized by the World War ace, Captain E. V. Rickbacher, now national chairman of the A. A. A. contest board. For each of the previous tests covering starting, acceleration, and mileage, Standard gasoline's unsurpassed rating was also certified by the board. Anti-knock comparisons were made entirely by contest board officials under the direction of R. W. Martland, Jr., committee member, and used the Cooperative Fuel Research Road Test method, stated to be the only anti-knock test acceptable to the U. S. bureau of standards. A stock model car rigged up with

the instruments required for C. F. R. tests was used to submit the leading western gasolines under study to a total of 200 tests. The test car approached a hill at 20 miles per hour. At a signal it was fully accelerated. Observations were made until speed dropped to 10 miles per hour on a steep hill. "Our purpose in requesting these tests," stated an official of the Standard Oil company, "was to secure an unbiased and authoritative report upon which the motoring public could confidently base its conclusions. It is only natural that the various refiners of gasoline should make enthusiastic claims regarding so important a factor as detonation, and we are deeply gratified that all our own laboratory and road tests have been confirmed by the 'unbiased' rating given our product by the leading independent automotive authority in the country."

PORTLAND EGG PRICES WILL ADVANCE CENT PORTLAND, July 11.—(AP)—There will be an advance of egg prices here, effective Wednesday morning when all prices will be moved up 1c dozen according to announcement of Manager Reed of the Pacific co-ops. Extras will then be listed at 20c and mediums and standards 19c dozen with oversize 22c.

Hamish McLaurin tells of the Hollywood director inspecting a bedroom set prior to shooting the scene. "Hey!" he barked at a property man "why all those cheap china cupboards? Take them away and put in big brass ones. This is supposed to be a rich man's bedroom. Swank it up!"

Railway Workers Continue Pay Cut CLEVELAND, July 11.—(AP)—The railway labor executives' association announced today that all the interested railway employees had confirmed an agreement to continue the temporary 10 per cent wage reduction placed in effect February 1, 1932.

Flight 'o Time

(Medford and Jackson County History from the Files of The Mail Tribune of 20 and 10 Years Ago.)

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY July 11, 1923 (It was Wednesday) Commissioner of Corporations W. E. Crews declares war on wildcat stock schemes.

Congrove Murphy of Los Angeles, plans to open a school of oratory here.

Economy Groceries and Ed Binn's meat market to move into new Neff building, Sixth and Central, coming week.

Two thousand, four hundred thirty-five autos have registered here so far this season, and the roads are clogged with tourists. Eight new auto camps started last month.

Pageant at the fairgrounds to be an annual event, and will put Medford on the musical map.

Watering time on the East Side cut two hours, to conserve supply.

Twenty Years Ago Today July 11, 1913 (It was Friday) Five hundred Medfordites join excursion to Ashland Chautauqua.

Jacob Oppenheimer, "Human Tiger" dies on gallows at Polem prison, first making a long speech to newspapermen opposing capital punishment.

Earl and Roland Hubbard and Robert Kinley, leave on a 350 mile hiking trip to the ocean and back.

Plan to make alfalfa meal discovered in valley.

"Jealous Pleads for Her Lover's Pardon" at the Iola, "Brave John of Virginia" at the Ugo, "Partners in Crime" at the Star.

Split log drag favored for use on county roads, as an economy measure.

Meteorological Report

Forecasts Medford and vicinity: Fair tonight and Wednesday; cooler Wednesday. Oregon: Cloudy on coast, otherwise fair tonight and Wednesday; cooler interior of west portion Wednesday.

Local Data Lowest temperature this morning, 55 degrees.

Temperature a year ago today: highest 79; lowest 42.

Total precipitation since September 1, 1932, 14.88 inches.

Relative humidity at 8 p. m. yesterday 30 per cent; 3 a. m. today, 78 per cent.

Sunset today, 7:47 p. m.

Tomorrow—Sunrise 4:46 a. m.; sunset, 7:47 p. m.

On Labor Board



Rose Schneiderman, a union organizer of 30 years experience, will champion the woman worker on the labor advisory board to the national recovery administration. She is pictured at her desk in Washington. (Associated Press Photo)

You Will Be Interested....

In a sound, profitable investment in this home-owned and managed institution which offers....

Absolute Safety For your money! The integrity of those who manage this association—your neighbors—backed by strict STATE supervision and the FEDERAL inspection made necessary by our affiliation with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Portland. We will gladly tell you more of this excellent home investment.

SOUTHERN Building & Loan Association Member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Portland