

Tax Committee To Hold Hearing Here Next Week

Subjects of vital interest to every taxpayer in this area are to be discussed next week when the legislative interim tax study committee holds a hearing at the Medford hotel Tuesday noon.

The forum-type meeting will consider the facts about the present condition of state finances, discuss the effect proposed measures would have on it and suggest some changes.

Here for the meeting will be Senator Howard Belton, chairman of the interim committee; Representative Giles French, Mrs. Louise Humphrey, tax expert for Oregon Business and Tax Research, and Earl B. Day, former legislator, Jackson county judge and state tax commissioner.

The interim committee hopes to meet as many officials of the county, city and school districts as possible while here, since the meeting will be in the nature of a fact-finding hearing.

Fruit Price Index Shows April Increase

The national index of prices received by growers for fruit rose about seven per cent from mid-March to mid-April, according to the bureau of agricultural economics computations released this week. But the price rise was a little less than usual for the month and price level in April was about nine per cent below a year earlier.

Most of the increase in the index during the month was due to strawberries, the bureau reported.

Reporting on the Oregon fruit market situation, the bureau said southern Oregon anjou pears are still available in Portland at \$4.75 to \$5.50. Winter pears were off local markets by this time last year. Some out-of-state shipments are still being made.

Arrowhead Display on At Downtown Store

A display of arrowheads, belonging to Wayne E. Neat of the veterans domiciliary center at Camp White and sold by collectors to be unusually fine, is being shown at Sam's Sporting Goods store in Medford.

Neat has almost 1,500 perfect specimens in his collection, and the major part of these is now being shown at the store. They were collected for the most part in Kiowa county, Colorado, where the World War I veteran was living. Unable to work because of failing health, Neat occupied himself by searching for the arrowheads, spending most of his time between 1935 and 1943 in this pursuit. He averaged two or three a day.

The display will be kept in the window of the store for several days, according to the management.

Last Civil War Vet Of Missouri Succumbs

Higginsville, Mo., May 10—(U.P.) Johnny Graves, who was released from the Confederate army because he was ill, died today at 108.

Graves, known most of his life as "Uncle Johnny," was the last veteran at the Missouri Confederate home here and except for widows of several other Civil war veterans, was its only resident.

Two nurses attended Graves, one by day and the other by night. Officials of the home estimated it cost the state \$25,000 a year to see that he got all the care provided by law.

Keene, N. H.—(U.P.)—Friends gave Miss Amy Yardly a bridal shower aboard the bus which was carrying her to work for the last time before she quit to get married.



GORGEOUS GUSSIE DOES IT AGAIN—Gertrude (Gorgeous Gussie) Moran showed up for an exhibition tennis match in the British sector of Berlin wearing this fancy gold-embroidered dress—neat but not as spectacular as the lace-trimmed panties she wore a while back at Wimbledon. Admiring dress is German net star Frau Von Falkenhayn.

Tire Prices To Jump Five Per Cent Soon

Detroit, May 10—(U.P.)—Tire prices will jump about five per cent within a month, President Harry E. Humphreys Jr., of U.S. Rubber company predicted today.

Background on Meat Inspection Plea Given by Meatmen; Costs Are Problem

Additional background information on the plan for city meat inspection was given at a meeting between meatmen and city council here this week.

The inspection problem came to a head last winter when United States department of agriculture officials said they would remove the federal grade unless meat firms had approved inspection. Of four packing firms of the valley which had the federal grade, only two now have met state standards and have inspection and the grade, it is reported.

While the state department of agriculture has supervision over meat and inspectors, it has no funds for state inspection, and the two local plants are bearing the cost at considerable expense in order to keep in competition with outside enterprises.

New Policy

The federal agency, it is said, instituted the new policy to alleviate a consumer misconception. Previously, a federal grade stamp did not necessarily mean meat had been inspected, a belief consumers gained from wartime regulations.

According to Mayor D. L. Flynn, some time ago the city administration was asked to help eliminate the health hazard in the preparation of livestock for human consumption since there was no state-financed inspection. Some meat men and city officials have since then investigated other city ordinances.

Cost Cited

Flynn and Councilman Floyd Watkins brought out that the city is not in a position to stand much expense of enforcement of an ordinance and that cost probably will have to be borne by meat men.

There was evidence at the meeting that small operators might not have much objection to inspection if the cost was equalized. Another comment was that consumers might not mind having the inspection cost passed on to them if they realized what they were getting. According to one estimate the cost of meat would be increased about one-quarter cent a pound.

Urges State Inspection

Attorney Kenneth Denman, representing small packers at the meeting, urged a drive for statewide inspection. He said that an ordinance would only go to the city limits, questioned the number of persons outside the city who would be affected and mentioned the possibility of competition from retailers setting up outside the city limits.

Dr. A. Erin Merkel, county health officer, discussed the health angle of the problem, pointing to cases of illness in the form of food poisoning. He told programs, saying that some meats not getting by in those states are "dumped" in Oregon.

There was other testimony as to the number of rejections where inspection is in force.

No retailers present responded when Flynn asked for a show of hands of those among them who were opposed to inspection.

Drinking Would Be Expensive for Heir

Philadelphia, May 10—(U.P.) It would cost John Benson Parker II \$8,000 to start drinking.

The will of his grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Benson Parker, left her \$8,000 estate to him when he reaches the age of 35, "provided he is not then addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors and enjoys a reputation of sobriety."

Mrs. Parker's will, probated yesterday, said she desired that her grandson shall not use intoxicants "at all."

POLICE GET POLICE

Kenosha, Wis.—(U.P.)—Police arrested Joseph Frank Police, 21, charging him with going through a red light.

Mil Mar Owner To Be at Vacation Show

Mrs. Bruce E. Pingle, co-owner of Mil Mar ranch near Butte Falls, will leave tomorrow for Portland where she will attend and participate in the Oregon Vacation show.

Mrs. Pingle, who has recently returned from a similar show in California, will have an exhibit booth, showing tourist attractions in southern Oregon. Included will be literature from House of Mystery, Oregon Caves, Chamber of Commerce folders, as well as a model of Mil Mar ranch, and rock specimens from the Treasure Trove and the Rock Grotto.

The show is to acquaint those attending with Oregon vacation points and is said to be the first of its kind in Oregon.

Mrs. Pingle will be accompanied by Mrs. George A. Hubbard, Prospect, who will assist her at the exhibit. On their return they will visit Mrs. Fred Davis in Salem, and visit various travel bureaus and the Chamber of Commerce there.

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- MECHANIC**
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