

Sales Tax Measure Discussed Before Overflow Audience at Salem

Withholding Tax Increase Grabs Part of Spotlight

By BILL FORCE
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Salem — (U.P.)—The sales tax bill went on trial here yesterday when the House Taxation Committee took testimony on the measure before an overflow audience, but income tax grabbed part of the spotlight.

At an executive session the tax committee voted to recommend an increase in payroll deductions from the state income tax from one to two per cent. would also be collected from payrolls of farm employees and would catch transient laborers now exempt from withholding taxes.

Hill Introduces Bill

Appearing in favor of the sales tax bill, introduced by Rep. Earl Hill (R-Cushman), was the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation, plus more than a dozen individual farmers and several spokesmen for Oregon industry. Opponents included the Oregon State Grange, the Oregon Farmers Union, the CIO, the AFL, longshoremen, Streetcarman's union, and the Oregon Institute for Social Welfare.

Hill appealed to the committee to give his bill full consideration. He said the people of Oregon deserved the courtesy of being allowed to vote once more on a sales tax proposal.

He explained that it was designed to go exclusively for support of schools and that it would act as a property tax offset on the local level. He described the state gasoline tax as a 30 per cent sales tax for tenance. His general sales tax highway construction and maintenance would be three per cent. It would hit, Hill said, everyone in the state instead of the few. Cost of schools must be spread to all the people who benefit from them, not just to the property owners, Hill told the committee.

Pressure Mentioned

Argument mentioned most frequently by supporters of the bill was the increasing pressure of property taxes. H. B. Gillins, a Polk county farmer, said property taxes were so high now that farmers were buying back their farms every 10 years in taxes.

R. E. Kerr, speaking for the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation said there was a danger inherent in that part of Oregon's voting population with little or no tax responsibility. He called them freeriders. He said 32 states and the District of Columbia now have a sales tax and that to his knowledge, no sales tax had ever been repealed once it was enacted.

Mrs. Harry Bryant, Sherwood, and W. R. Robinette, master of the Holly Grange 325 at Sweet Home, denied that the Grange was solidly opposed to the sales tax. Robinette said his organization was on record in favor of such a revenue measure provided it was earmarked for a specific use such as schools and did not go directly to the general fund.

Said Inequitable Tax

P. M. De Laubenfels, representing the Oregon State Grange, admitted his organization was not 100 per cent opposed to the Hill measure but he said it would oppose any sales tax as a regressive and inequitable tax based on necessity to spend rather than on ability to pay. He added that Hill's tax plan was a bad one and would not help finances on the state level unless some state expenses were thrown back on the county property tax. It would lower county property taxes for corporations who would pay no sales tax, he said.

George Brown, executive secretary of the Oregon CIO, testified that a sales tax would reduce sales of consumer goods by the amount taken out of incomes and that it would encourage extravagance in state government spending.

Tom Scanlon, speaking for the AFL and the railroad brotherhoods, asked the committee to look at the experience of Washington state which he said was in a more serious financial dilemma than Oregon despite the sales tax in that state. Income is the only true source of revenue, he said, adding that the sales tax would not top any new source.

The committee voted unanimously to double the state withholding tax and members indicated they might depend on increased personal income taxes as part of the method of balancing the budget.

Yesterday's crowded hearing schedule included sessions on state permits for exclusive service by utilities for sale of natural or manufactured gas; on unemployment compensation coverage for firms employing less than four persons, and on a proposed state parks commission and Columbia Gorge commission.

Favorable Consideration of Recreation Resources Urged

Salem — (U.P.)—Fuller use of Oregon's recreation resources was the aim of three bills discussed here last night at a hearing before a ways and means subcommittee headed by Rep. Francis Ziegler (R-Corvallis).

Purpose of the three bills, all introduced in the Senate, was to create a State Park commission separate from the highway commission, to provide funds for the Columbia Gorge commission for land acquisition and administration and to create an office of state recreation director.

Sen. Pat Lonergan (R-Port-

land and Rep. Alfred Corbett (D-Portland), authors of the parks commission bill, urged the committee to give favorable consideration to their measure which would take control of 52 state parks from the highway commission and give it to a separate agency. They would have the Legislature give the proposed parks commission \$3,500,000 in highway gas tax funds to operate.

The highway commission's present state parks department now uses about \$1,000,000 in gas tax money to maintain the

state park system. They said a separate system was needed to develop park sites not necessarily contiguous to state highways.

Opponents of the measure were the highway commission itself and Alfred Collier, Klamath Falls, a donor of park sites to the state. Collier said the highway commission was doing an adequate job of park development and had given the state a system of parks superior to any other state in the west. The highway commission, through a letter, said it feared

a separate parks commission would duplicate present services and cost too much for administration. It warned, too, that the state could not afford the diversion of more money from its highway construction and maintenance fund.

Mrs. Gertrude Jensen, chairman of the Columbia Gorge Commission, appealed for \$59,000 worth which to buy lands in the gorge to preserve them for public use. She said the commission was particularly anxious to acquire the sites of six waterfalls in the gorge which

were in danger of destruction as public attractions. Mrs. Jensen charged that the highway commission had defaulted from its responsibility of protecting the beauty and cash value of the gorge as a scenic attraction.

The proposed recreation department that would be created in a bill authorized by Sen. John Merrifield (R-Portland) would serve as a clearing house for recreation information in the state and act as a consulting service. The bill would appropriate more than \$34,000 for the department's activities during the coming biennium.

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Our buyer thought you ladies would "snap" these right up. However, before you could do that, they went out of style (about 10 years ago). They're marked \$2.64, but we could be persuaded to part with them for **\$1.00**

32 PAIR OF MEN'S LIGHT-WEIGHT DRESS RUBBERS

Sizes 6 to 10 1/2. No one apparently wants to pay us \$1.98 for these so—we have finally seen the "light," and you can have a pair of these light-weight rubbers for **\$1.00**

15 PAIR OF MEN'S DRESS OXFORDS

These "pups" have been tried on so often they are getting run down at the heels, and need half soles. Your choice of both black and brown styles. Sold for \$9.95. Good buys if you only use them to throw at yowling cats. Now only **\$4.99**

17 PAIR OF GIRLS WHITE GYM OXFORDS

Believe me, we sure got "gymied" up on these! Sizes 13 to 3. We've sold lots of them at \$2.89. Why the girls didn't buy these, we don't know; in fact, we don't even know why we bought them, but you can sure have a pair for only **\$1.50**

30 BOYS COTTON UNION SUITS

Short sleeve knee length. We had hundreds of these, and frankly, we don't sell many of them, but the salesman who sold us sure sells a lot of them. Sizes 8 and 10 only. We tried to get \$1.49 for them. Can we interest you at **15¢ each**

11 SUEDE KNIT SKI PAJAMAS FOR MEN

Made by a famous maker, but these sure aren't the ones that made him famous, by a long shot. We couldn't sell them for \$4.95, and we can't eat them, so how about **\$2.99**

BOYS REVERSIBLE WARM-UP JACKETS

Sizes 4 to 18, in bright satin or fancy check. Reverses to water repellent poplin. Our buyer was really on the ball on these. They were very good at \$6.95, and are really a steal at **\$3.44**

BOYS NAVY BLUE CORDS

Just 24 pair left in sizes 4 to 10, not all sizes however. Another extra hot item. Nothing wrong with these. Were \$3.98. While they last **\$1.99**

9 Men's Linen and Dacron Mix SPORT COATS

Our buyer thought these were knock-outs, and we've been knocking ourselves out trying to get rid of them. These sporty sport coats were \$19.95. Won't you be a sport and take them **\$12.99** off our hands for.....

SPECIAL! OUR FEATURE ATTRACTIONS

26 PAIR LADIES BROWN & WHITE SADDLE OXFORDS

Ladies, do your feet hurt? Are you tired from walking all day? Then come in and get in the saddle. We got saddled with too many of these saddle oxfords. Sizes 5 1/2 to 9 in AA and B widths. They were \$6.95, but you can lead them away for..... **\$4.44**

12 PAIR MEN'S WORK SHOES and OXFORDS

The salesman told us these would sell like hotcakes, but these lazy loafers have just been hanging around, taking up shelf room. We'd like you to put them to work. \$7.95 is the price, but if you want a pair, we'll **\$4.44** part with them for only.....

22 PAIR GIRLS PATENT LEATHER STRAPS

Sizes 8 to 3. No one seems to need these at \$4.95, so we'll try and get rid of them for **\$1.99**

(And girls, if your name should happen to be "Great Scott," we'll have it engraved on these shoes free of charge!)

7 MEN'S HORSEHIDE Flight Jackets!

Sizes 38 to 44. These are quilted lined and are really warm — in fact they are too HOT for us. If you are planning to spend your vacation with the Eskimos, these are just the thing. These flight jackets were \$29.95, and we're hoping they'll fly out of here at **\$18.66**

Children's Bolta-Tex Plastic Western Jackets

Our buyer bought 14 of these, but unfortunately, he only has four children (so far) so we have 10 left. These were \$8.98, and we're sure any child between the ages of 2 and 8 would be tickled with one of these. We'd be tickled too if you would take these **\$5.99** off our hands at.....

9 Boys Letterman Style Coat Sweaters

All wool... and we sure got the wool pulled over our eyes when we bought these. Sizes 6 and 8 only. So if you have a 6 or 8 year old that made his letter in football or basketball, you'll surely need one of these—we **\$2.77** hope! Cut to.....

6 Boys Red Plastic Rain Jackets

Sizes 14 and 16. Well, they're rain jackets, so all you have to do is buy one, wait for it to rain and see... they have two sleeves and zip up and down the front. If we'd known enough to come in out of the rain we wouldn't be stuck with them now! **\$1.50** Reg. \$2.69 — Now.....

8 Men's All Wool Sport Shirts

Sickly yellow mustard color. Strong men pale when they see these sickly woolly freaks. Ladies, if you want to really scare your husband, buy him one of these. We couldn't sell them **\$4.99** for 7.95, so how about

12 Boys Suede Knit Ski Pajamas

Size 6 only. Reg. \$3.49. Oh yes, we have several different colors, but all we can see is RED, when we look at them. These are all cotton, guaranteed moth proof for 5 years, and won't rust **\$2.44** or tarnish. Cut to.....

LADIES' FAMOUS MAKE BRAS

Just 16 left in white only. Size 40 in B and C cups. Reg. \$2.95 values. These are terrific! They've got everything, including a little dust and dirt. **\$1.50** Very up lifting. Now only.....

FAMOUS MAKE BRAS

15 left in this group. Sizes 34 to 40 in B and C cup size. Reg. \$1.50 values. These are a happy bunch of bras (self-happy that is!) Won't you take them off our hands for only **88¢**

5 SMALL SIZE ROLL-ON GIRDLES

Ladies, if your husband is having trouble making ends meet, come in here, we'll help support you. We've had these little beauties long enough. Now we'd like you to take them off our hands. They were \$1.95. **\$1.00** Now.....

20 FANCY Rayon and Nylon GOWNS

These gowns have hung around till they're hanger-happy and we're getting slap-happy thinking about how crazy we were to hang them up in the first place. They were \$5.98 to \$9.98. **\$3.98 1/2** Now..... (2 for \$7.97 — You don't lose a cent by buying two)

POLISHED COTTON YARDAGE

Yards and yards of the doggone stuff, and frankly we're getting awfully tired of polishing the stuff. Orchid, green, blue, grey, chartreuse, and red, the same color as our buyers face. We thought we could get 98¢ a yard for it, but won't you **55¢ per yd.** help us out at.....

120 CHILDREN'S COTTON ANKLETS

I don't think we bought these. We inherited them. Our buyer cringes at the sight of them, and customers pass them by like they had smallpox. Small sizes 4 to 6, and we've knocked the price down **15¢** from 39¢ to.....

12 FANCY COTTON CHALLIS NIGHT GOWNS

Fancy printed and plain colors. These are night gowns, and it must have been an awfully dark night when we got stuck with these! They're marked \$3.98 but you can have your choice **\$1.99** for only.....

10 LADIES BLACK CREPE SLIPS

Boy, our buyer sure slipped up here, or else some slippery salesman slipped these slips to her when she wasn't looking. They're really not too bad though, and although they didn't sell at \$3.98, they **2.44** surely ought to go for only.....

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