

Senate OKs First Measure in House Taxation Program

Salem — (U.P.) — The Oregon Senate passed the first measure in the tax program built by the House, but not before a burst of heated debate late yesterday.

Sen. Gene Brown (R-Grants Pass) called it "stop-gap" legislation. He said the Legislature wasn't facing up to the problem on a permanent basis.

The bill repeals exemptions from the corporate excise tax which have been enjoyed by utilities and by corporations which get 95 per cent of their income from real property rentals.

Brown 'Presumptuous'

Sen. Paul E. Geddes (R-Roseburg) sternly told the Senate in general and Sen. Brown in particular that the senator from Grants Pass was presumptuous in calling the program "stop-gap" when he didn't even know what the tax committee members plan for the remainder of the program. He said the members themselves have not yet made up their minds.

Two Dissenting Votes

Sen. Lee Ohmart (R-Salem) acting chairman of the Senate assessment and Taxation Committee, said emphatically it was not a "stop-gap" program they were working on but a permanent one. He said the measure lifting the exemptions on utilities and repealing what is called the "skyscraper" clause concerning property rentals was expected to pick up \$3,500,000 in the next biennium.

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Sen. Howard Belton (R-Canby) said the measure to put the corporate excise tax on utilities "plugs a loophole that we have been trying to fill for 25 years."

After lengthy debate in which several others joined, the Senate passed the bill with only two dissenting votes — Sens. J. O. Johnson (R-Tigard) and Warren McMinimiee (R-Tillamook).

Sen. Brown explained, after the rollcall, that he had voted for the measure because Sens. Geddes and Ohmart had convinced him that the bill was not a stop-gap measure.

The action of the measure answered amply, observers said, charges made by some house members that the Senate tax committee would do nothing but mark time this week while Chairman Rudie Wilhelm (R-Portland) is in Chicago attending a convention of the national association of warehousemen of which he is a director.

In fact, Sen. Ohmart scheduled three meetings for his committee today.

The Senate also passed House bill 40 yesterday. It defines true cash value as the market value of property on the assessment date. But the Senate amended the measure to postpone its effective date until Jan. 1, 1961, so the bill now goes back to the House.

House Passes Measure To Outlaw Feminine Wrestlers in Oregon

Salem — (U.P.) — A bill to ban women wrestlers from Oregon was approved yesterday in the House.

Rep. Edwin Johnson (R-Eugene) said the bill was needed to protect public morals because wrestling exhibitions featuring women attracted children who were subjected to the bawdy remarks of the audiences.

Jensen Embarrassed

Rep. Robert Jensen (R-Portland) told the House he was embarrassed to admit to his constituents that he had taken time at the Legislature "to pass on stuff like this." He asserted that those who objected to women wrestlers need not attend wrestling matches where they appeared.

Rep. Maurine Neuberger (D-Portland) objected to the bill as discrimination.

Members rejected a bill that would have required cities, counties and school districts to pay their employees overtime.

Opponents objected that the bill would sharply increase the costs of local government.

A bill that would have allowed counties to construct, maintain, and operate sewage disposal works in unincorporated areas was also defeated in a lengthy afternoon session yesterday.

Approved was a bill eliminating the present requirement that detailed statements of county expenditures be published monthly in newspapers of record. Rep. Al Loucks (R-Salem) said the bill would save the counties thousands of dollars and would not deprive the public of its rights of full information about county affairs.

Financial Statements

The bill would provide for posting of financial statements on the courthouse bulletin board and interested taxpayers could obtain statements by mail by request.

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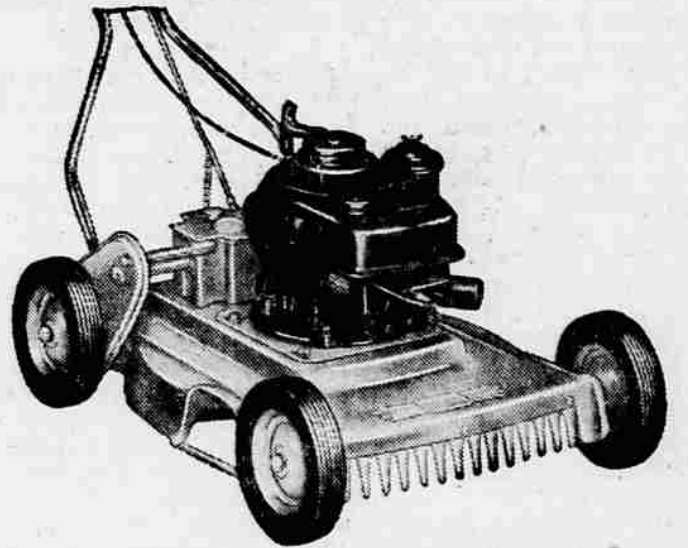
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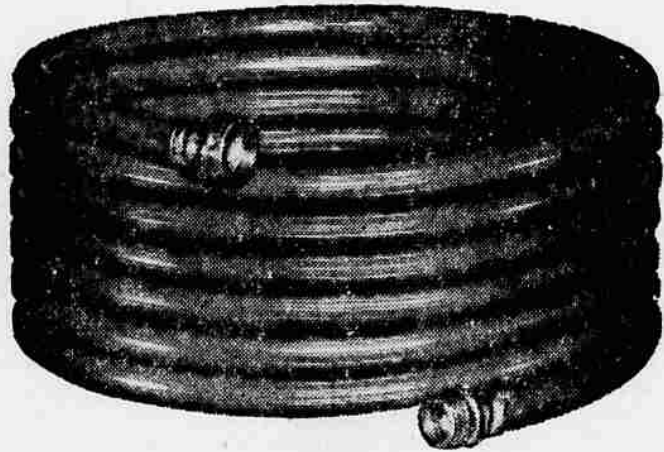
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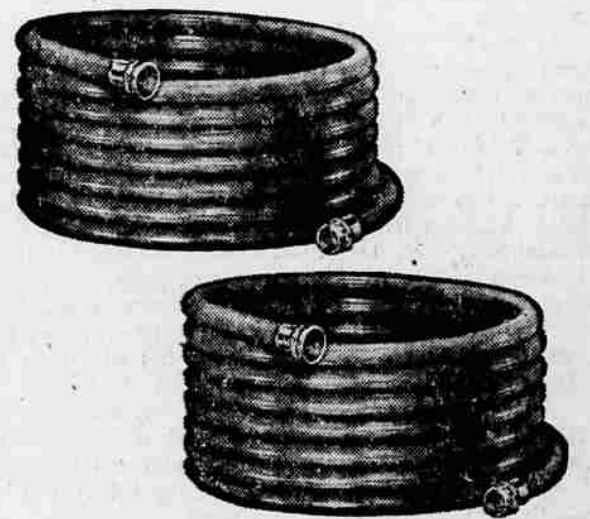
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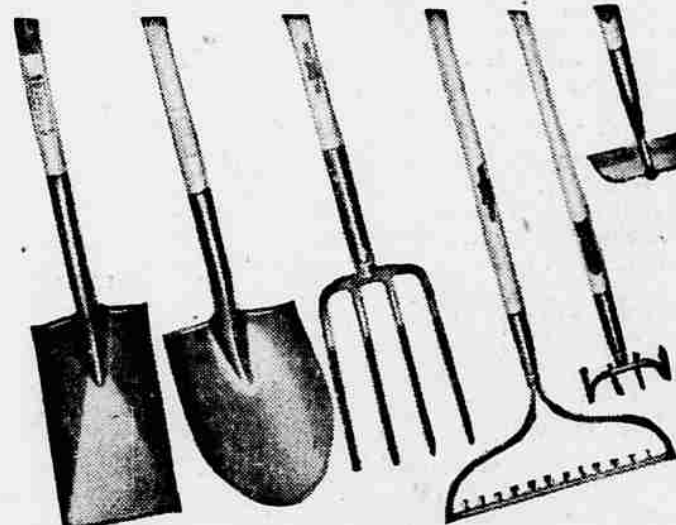
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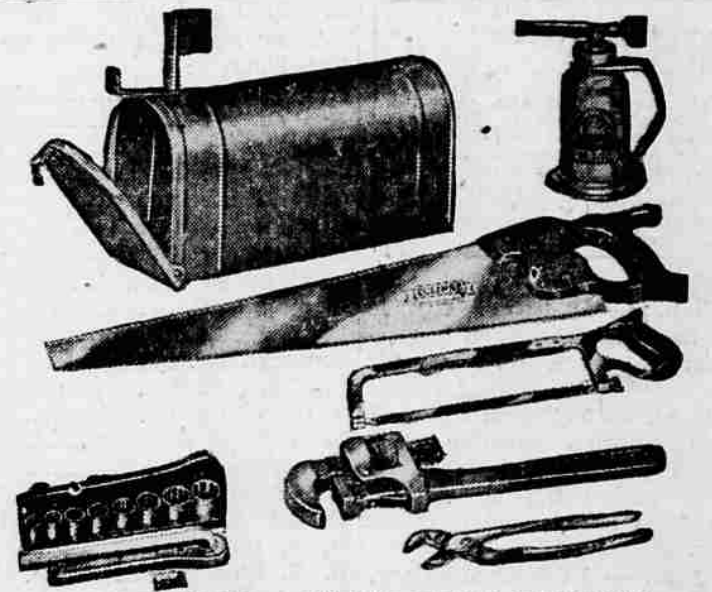
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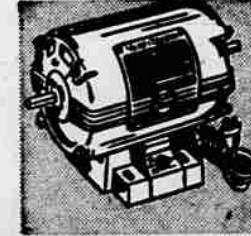


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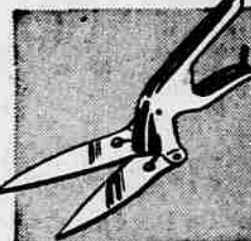


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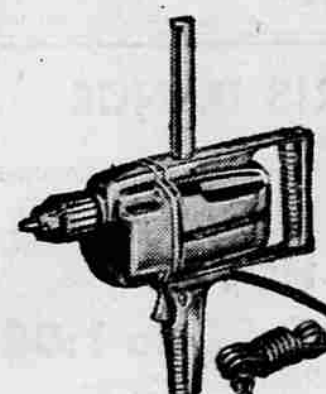


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