

Assessment Methods For Orchards To Be Subject of Meeting

Methods of assessing taxes on orchard property will be a top item of business here Thursday at a public hearing to be conducted by the Oregon State Tax commission. The hearing is scheduled for 1 p.m. in the courthouse auditorium.

Purpose of the hearing is to allow a full discussion of a proposed tax commission order to R. G. Fowler, Jackson county assessor, instructing him to include the value of orchard trees in the

valuation of the land on which they are growing.

Those who would be affected by such an order will be given an opportunity to show why such an order should or should not be issued, according to Samuel B. Stewart, state tax commissioner.

Stewart explained, "The commission's contemplated order is predicted upon existing statutes which define land as including, among other things, 'trees,' and the practice in the order fruit-producing counties of including the value of orchard trees in the value of the land."

"Jackson county orchardists have, and continue to allege, that the word 'trees' refers only to standing timber, and that the land only is to be assessed, having no regard to the value of the orchard trees growing thereon."

Uniformity Sought

The contemplated order, as explained by the commissioner, would be issued "in order to achieve uniformity in assessment practice between counties, to achieve uniformity within the county, and as a media whereby the correctness of the commission's interpretation can be tested by the courts."

If the courts should rule that the commission's interpretation of the law is incorrect, then the other Oregon fruit-producing counties would have a legal decision which would allow them to remove orchard trees from liability for ad valorem tax purposes.

If the commission's interpretation of the law was found to be correct, the course to be followed by Fowler then would be clearly outlined, Stewart said.

A large delegation of orchardists and other Jackson county property owners is expected at the hearing. Stewart noted that owners of non-orchard property should be concerned with the problem, in that if orchard trees as such are not assessed for tax purposes, they will pay "a significantly greater portion" of the total ad valorem tax burden.



TOWERING SUSPENSE—A man, later tentatively identified as Sam Romppner, 42, edges away from a bridge worker (left) seeking to coax him down from a Queensboro Bridge girder 200 feet above New York's East River. He was first discovered atop the bridge tower 500 feet above the water attempting to climb the flagpole. Failing, he descended to run back and forth on the girder. Three bridge workers and three policemen finally snared him, trussed him up and lowered him by rope. At right, he wears grin and nonchalantly flicks ashes from his cigar as a rescuer guides his descent. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital for observation.

Central Point Boy Wins KP's Speech Contest Last Night

Nathan Douthit, Central Point, a junior student at Crater High school, last night was picked as winner of the Knights of Pythias public speaking contest for this area.

Four contestants, two from Crater High and two from Medford High, participated in last night's elimination contest, conducted before a small audience of judges and teachers. Second place winner was Mildred Gail, also of Crater High school.

The judges were Foster Hibbard, Medford, recent winner of a Toastmasters International speaking contest, and Mr. and Mrs. Moore Hamilton, Medford.

Subject for the talks was "What Can I Do for Highway Safety?"

Douthit will represent this area at a two-county contest, with the Josephine county winner, tentatively scheduled at Crater High school Friday evening.

The competition is sponsored by the Knights of Pythias youth commission, and later phases of the contest include state, regional and national contests.

Rogue River High School Elections Scheduled Monday

Rogue River — Student body officers for Rogue River High school will be elected during an assembly Monday. Awards for winners of the annual V.F.W. essay contest also will be presented, as will individual awards to members of the high school's track team who placed in events in the Hayward relays at Eugene recently.

Jenny Fritz won the essay contest, on the subject "What Civil Defense Means to Me," and Roberta Adams was second. Fifteen had entered the contest.

Candidates Listed
Candidates for student body president are Bill Weaver, Irene Bringmann, Windy Williams, and Roland Prefontaine. Vice-president candidates are Bill Speers, Colin McCoy and Bob Wilson, and candidates for secretary include Beverly Burgoyne, Dorothy Boucher, Myrna Towse and Judy Farrar.

Between two and five cheerleaders will be elected from among Leverne Akers, Darlene Nelson, Irene Bringmann, Nancy Bradley, Dorothy Boucher, Katie Herburger, Beverly Burgoyne, Myrna Towse, Sharon Stevens, Carol Weaver, Marcia Thayer, Patty Wilson and Patty Cowie.

Resident Physician Due at Gold Hill

Gold Hill — The city of Gold Hill will have a resident physician for the first time in 20 years when Dr. Stanley A. Brown opens an office for medical practice here Monday, May 2.

The last resident physician in Gold Hill was Dr. W. P. Chisholm, who practiced medicine here for 40 years prior to his death in 1935.

Dr. Brown's office will be located in the building just west of Cogswell's market on Second ave. until more adequate office quarters can be arranged.

Dr. Brown received pre-medical training at the University of Oregon and Willamette university and attended the University of Oregon medical school. He took his internship at St. Vincent's hospital in Portland, where he practiced general medicine with another physician.

Dr. Brown, who is 33 years old, is a veteran of three years' Army service and comes to Gold Hill from Salem.

TO CONTINUE STUDIES
Rogue River—Leonard Walsh, superintendent of schools at Rogue River who resigned several weeks ago, has accepted a scholarship at Stanford university in Palo Alto, Calif., to continue his studies for a doctor's degree in education. He plans to complete work for the degree in a year.

Federal Income Tax Said Root of All Evil

San Francisco — (U.P.)—Silent screen star Corinne Griffith believes that the root of all evil is not love of money but the federal income tax.

Miss Griffith, the wife of George Preston Marshall, owner of the Washington Redskins professional football team, expressed this belief last night in a speech to the Congress of Freedom.

The congress is a "coalition of patriotic American organizations" now holding its annual convention. Object of the week-long meeting is to appraise the United Nations. So far, delegates have been highly critical of the UN.

Miss Griffith, who is honorary president of the Organization to Repeal Federal Income Taxes, Inc., told 300 delegates: "I've been brought to the solid conviction that the root of all evil is the federal income tax."

Youth Program Set By Townsend Club

A public entertainment program featuring young people of Medford will be given at the Pythian building Friday at 8 p.m. under the sponsorship of the Townsend club, it was announced today.

Some 45 or 50 youngsters from pre-school to Junior High school age, will participate, according to Mrs. Florence Boussum, president of the club. They will include a group of students of Eve Prentice's accordion studio, Miss Pat's dance pupils, baton twirlers from Bliss Heine's Juniors, and entertainers from the Junior High school and St. Mary's school.

Instrumental, dance and vocal numbers will be given. Refreshments will be served in the banquet room after the program, Mrs. Boussum said.

The public is invited, and there will be no admission charge.

It was also announced that the two Townsend clubs, Nos. 1 and 4, consolidated recently, all

Mediators Meet in Parke - Davis Strike

Detroit — (U.P.)—Mediators met separately today with officials of Parke, Davis & Co. and the CIO Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers in an effort to head off a strike which would cut off a major supply of Salk vaccine.

The mediators explored a company offer and the union's demands in a 3½ hour session yesterday and said they will call the officials to a joint session after conferring with the company at 10 a.m. and the union at 1 p.m. EST.

Contract talks were broken off last week when a union official charged the company was refusing to bargain in good faith.

The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis ordered 60 per cent of the 18,000,000 cubic centimeters of the vaccine needed for its "no charge" program this year from Parke, Davis and Eli Lilly & Co., of Indianapolis, Ind.

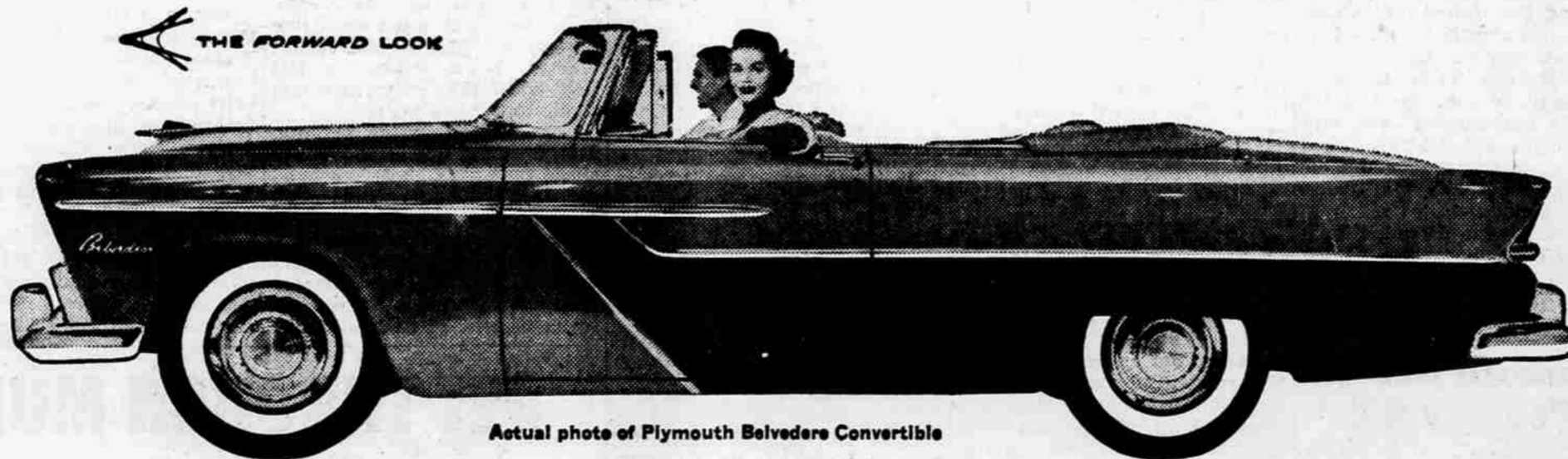
Loyalty Day Program Slated at Rogue River

Rogue River—A Loyalty day program, sponsored by the Rogue River Veterans of Foreign Wars and auxiliary, will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, at the Veterans' clubhouse, Leo Orvis, commander of the local post, has announced.

Following the program, to which county officials and Rogue River officials have been invited, refreshments will be served.

TO MAKE CONTEST PLANS
Rogue River — The Rogue River Boosters club will complete plans for the annual Rooster Crowing contest June 18 at a meeting at 8 p.m. tonight at Waller's Inn.

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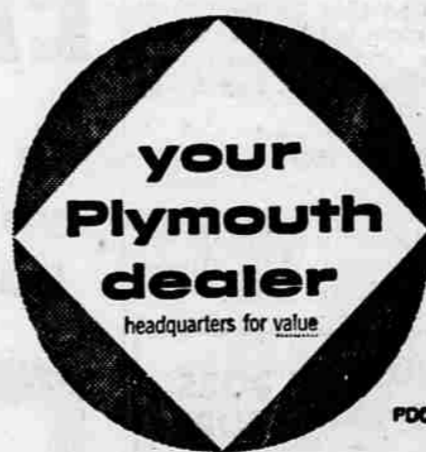
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