

Timber Taxation In Lane County Draws Interest

Eugene—(U.P.)—Lumbermen watched with alarm and other counties with interest today a move by Lane county to add to the real property tax rolls timber purchased from federal and state agencies in the first six months of 1955.

Winford W. Smith, Lane county tax assessor, said the assessments were being made under an amended 1953 statute. Lane county is the only county to take such action.

Lumbermen said that if the action stood unchallenged it would mean a new tax burden running into hundreds of thousands of dollars per year. Industry spokesmen indicated that if necessary they would carry the dispute to the State Supreme court.

Assessment Notices Sent

Smith said notices of assessment on some \$15,000,000 worth of timber under the "omitted property" clause of the tax law had been sent 36 buyers of O&C timber. About 130 others were being readied for mailing. They involve U.S. Forest Service and state sales. Thirty buyers of O&C timber have appeared at tax hearings to protest.

It was estimated that Smith's decision to assess the timber could mean extra tax expense of \$311,508 for the 166 buyers for one year on timber which before has been considered property of the U.S. until harvested and paid for by the operator.

Amended Law Cited

Smith cited an amended 1953 law which he believes requires him to assess the timber at 25 per cent of the sales contract price as soon as it becomes eligible for assessment. He claims the title to timber changes hands to a taxable private party from an exempt public agency on date of contract award. "I must enforce the law as it is written," he said.

Smith said he had not received a requested opinion from the

State Tax commission. He said that under the "omitted property" clause sales for the first six months of 1955 fell within the ad valorem tax realm on Jan. 1. After that date he started the assessment. Figures for the final six months are being compiled, he said. Only timber not harvested up to Jan. 1 would be assessed, Smith said.

Lower Offers Seen

A spokesman for the Bureau of Land Management said that if the assessment is upheld it might "inhibit the bidding and purchasing policies of the industry." This could result in lower offers for stumpage since the buyer would be assuming more tax burden.

Lumbermen claim that sales contracts were merely licenses or permits to enter federal lands for cutting and that title to timber does not change until it is harvested and paid for.

Arrest Five Youths In Connection With Liquor Theft Here

Four Medford and Central Point youths were arrested Thursday and another today by city police on a charge of stealing more than two cases of whisky, most of which, they told officers, was consumed at parties held in a vacant house in Central Point.

Four of the youths signed statements admitting the burglary of the American Legion Hall, 531 South Riverside ave., on Nov. 20, 1955. Two full cases of whisky, three bottles of champagne and a bottle of champagne were stolen. One of the boys was 15, another 16 and three 17 years old.

The boys told police they went down the alley behind the building, and while some of them acted as "lookouts," the others removed a screen from a back window and took the liquor. One of the boys had seen the cases of whisky stored in the legion hall when he was attending a church service in the building, they told police.

Use Vacant House

According to the signed statements, they took the liquor to a vacant house in Central Point, owned by the mother of one of the boys, and hid it in the attic. Other youngsters were having a party and dancing in the house at that time, and they took five bottles of the whisky and joined the party.

The boys told police that they had frequent parties at the vacant house and that most of the liquor was consumed at these gatherings. Several bottles were stolen from them, they said, by other youths who had learned where the whisky was hidden.

All five youths are now being held in Jackson county jail. They will be turned over to juvenile authorities.

Contract for Hopkins Canal Work Awarded

The E-W Construction company, Eugene, has been awarded a contract for construction of 900 linear feet of 42-inch siphon in the Hopkins Canal Rehabilitation program, the local Bureau of Reclamation office said today.

The company had the low bid of \$49,698 for the project. Seven bids were opened Jan. 19. Construction is expected to start in the near future.

The work involves replacement of the existing Antelope and Bear creek wood stave flumes with concrete cylindrical pipe.

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Hood River Man To Oppose Morse On Primary Ballot

Three Mentioned for Norblad's House Seat

Portland—(U.P.)—Sen. Wayne Morse picked up his first opposition for the Democratic nomination for U. S. senator today while three prominent names were mentioned as possible candidates for the Congressional seat to be vacated by Rep. Walter Norblad.

Woody Smith, Hood River Democrat, filed at Salem to oppose Morse in the primary. Circuit Judge Donald Long of Portland, who had considered opposing Morse, said he has "just about definitely decided not to be a candidate."

Newby Possible Candidate Secretary of State Earl T. Newby, Dr. Frank Fowler of Astoria and Eugene Marsh of McMinnville were considered possible candidates for Norblad's seat. Newby and Dr. Fowler said they were "seriously considering" filing their candidacies. Marsh indicated his political plans were indefinite.

Norblad announced earlier this week he would seek the GOP nomination for governor. Jason Lee, Salem attorney, is the only announced Democratic candidate for the first district Congressional seat.

Seeks Senate Presidency

State Sen. Warren A. McMinnlee of Tillamook announced he would be a candidate for president of the state Senate in 1957, assuring a contest for that position. State Sen. Warren Gill of Lebanon also seeks the position. State Sen. Howard Belton of Canby, who has been mentioned as a possible candidate, said he was "not an active candidate at this time."

James L. Pullman Appointed Welfare Administrator Here

James L. Pullman, 34, has been appointed administrator of the Jackson County Public Welfare department, County Judge Rodney Keating announced yesterday.

Pullman replaces Mrs. Blanche Lyman, who was dismissed from the job Jan. 1 by the State Public Welfare commission. He will assume his duties here March 1. He comes here from Union County Public Welfare commission at LaGrande, where he had been administrator since Sept. 1, 1954.

Education Listed

Pullman, who received elementary and high school education in Iowa, has a bachelor's degree in sociology from Washington State college and a master's degree in social work from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

Following almost four years of service with the Navy during World War II, he was in business, but entered social work in 1952, serving with the Salt Lake County Welfare department, the Utah State Welfare department at Salt Lake City, the Clackamas County Public Welfare commission at Oregon City and the Multnomah County Public Welfare commission in Portland.

Portland—(U.P.)—A new corporation—Rose City Transit Company—will take over the mass transportation business in Portland next Friday.

CASE TALKS OF FICTITIOUS WIRE



DOWN BY THE SEA SHORE—Eight-month-old Gael is high and dry and safe in his plastic crib from where he watches enviously his mother, Mrs. John Sisich (left), and her friend, Jean Duba, romp in the surf of San Francisco Bay near Golden Gate Bridge. With the plastic crib for a baby sitter everyone gets to enjoy the sunshine, a recent welcome visitor to the Bay Area.

Air Force Starts Mercy Mission To Snowbound Greece

London—(U.P.)—The U. S. Air Force dispatched transport planes on a "mercy" airlift mission to snowbound Greece today and alerted others to stand by for possible emergency operations in stricken Italy.

U. S. Air Force European headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany, announced three C119 Flying Boxcars left for Athens today to parachute 52 tons of badly-needed food and clothing into snowbound areas in northern Greece. The planes were dispatched in response to an urgent appeal from U.S. Ambassador Cavendish W. Cannon, the announcement said.

Other flying boxcars were on a stand-by alert to fly similar emergency missions into Italy, if necessary, the Air Force said.

Relief Trucks Roll

The first American relief shipments already were enroute to southern Italy, immobilized by the worst winter storms in a century.

The U.S. Army "mercy" convoy crawled for hours through snow and ice to deliver supplies of food and clothing to Rome for the past 10 days, counted 68 dead.

A new Siberian-born cold wave swept over the rest of Europe, barely recovering from record-breaking cold spells of last week. Temperatures were plummeting and many countries received heavy snowfalls.

At least 247 persons have died since the first icy winds from the east hit Europe Feb. 1. Italy, which has had no relief in the past 10 days, counted 68 dead.

Ships Missing

Storms also plagued ships at sea. The 261-ton British coastal steamer Conlea radioed for help

Total damage to public property was \$909,670, although Sheets said claims from some cities and counties are still being submitted.

The federal government informed Gov. Smith Wednesday that an additional half million dollars had been allocated to Oregon under the federal disaster act, bringing the total funds available to Oregon for repair of roads, bridges and other public works to \$650,000.

Coos Has Heaviest Losses

Coos county suffered the heaviest loss, \$1,600,198. Other losses by counties included: Benton, \$36,020. Clackamas, \$341,914. Clatsop, \$115,000. Columbia, \$204,100. Curry, \$40,000. Douglas, \$442,415. Jackson, \$928,995. Josephine, \$779,765. Lane, \$290,500. Lincoln, \$80,050. Linn, \$64,694. Marion, \$44,850. Multnomah, \$185,000. Polk, \$856,697. Washington, \$563,255. Portland, \$476,068.

McKay Testimony in Sarena Case Sought

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) demanded today that Interior Secretary Douglas McKay tell Al Sarena Mines, Inc., to operate a mine on its mining claims in an Oregon national forest.

In a speech prepared for Senate delivery, Neuberger said the Al Sarena Company, Mobile, Ala., has done no mining on the claims since the Interior Department awarded it title two years ago. But, he said, the company has cut a "substantial amount" of timber on the land.

Hearing Slated on New Ashland Hospital

Ashland—Residents of the Ashland-Talent area have been invited to a public meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, in the Elks lodge here to discuss possibilities of the need, desire and feasibility of a new hospital in Ashland to serve the area.

The meeting was called by John C. Cotton and Ed Singmaster, who last fall were appointed co-chairman of a committee to study possibilities of construction of a new hospital here.

Negotiations Collapse In Westinghouse Strike

Pittsburgh—(U.P.)—Negotiations in the Westinghouse Electric Corp. strike collapsed today and the Federal Mediation Service withdrew from efforts to settle the 117-day walkout.

Copper Wire Sale To Russia Concerns U.S.

Washington—(U.P.)—The United States is seriously concerned about large-scale purchases of copper wire from the west by Russia and its satellites, it was disclosed today.

President Eisenhower, during his recent talks with British Prime Minister Anthony Eden, was reported to have voiced American alarm at the heavy copper wire sales to the Soviet bloc by British and other suppliers after controls were lifted in August, 1954.

Informants said there is evidence that the Russians have been buying large quantities of unsheathed copper wire and melting it into hard-wire to get ingots. Copper has thousands of military and industrial uses.

Chicago—(U.P.)—Director Walter H. Zinn, 49, resigned as director of the atomic research Argonne National Laboratory effective June 30.

Telegram Urging Gas Bill Support Said To Be Phony Disclosure Made Before Committee

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Francis Case (R-S.D.), disclosed today that he had received an "apparently fictitious" telegram purportedly signed by one of his campaign aides and urging his support for the natural gas bill.

Case made the disclosure in testimony before the special Senate committee investigating whether a Nebraska attorney made an improper attempt to influence his vote on the gas measure.

He urged the committee to investigate the telegram.

Case said he thought the telegram had been sent to him by John Griffin, Sioux Falls, S.D., a lobbyist who had been accepting election campaign contributions for him.

Case told the committee the telegram in his testimony this morning. When he resumed his testimony this afternoon, he said Griffin came to his office "in the last 10 minutes" to see the telegram.

When it was produced, Case told the committee Griffin declared: "I never sent the telegram."

Case said the telegram was among several he had received before the Senate last Monday approved the controversial natural gas bill.

Case voted against the bill. Case suggested that the committee subpoena all such telegrams from Sioux Falls.

"The committee may want to determine who was in Sioux Falls affixing the names of friends of mine to telegrams in an attempt to influence my stand on the bill," Case said.

To Consider Matter Chairman Walter E. George (D-Ga.), said the group will consider the matter. But counsel Charles W. Steadman commented that Griffin's views on the gas bill were not the subject of the inquiry.

Earlier, Case testified that it "sounded sort of fantastic" when he learned a Nebraska attorney, interested in passage of the gas bill, had contributed \$2500 to his campaign fund.

Harriman Entered In New Hampshire Ballot

Concord, N.H.—(U.P.)—The name of Gov. Averell Harriman of New York was placed in New Hampshire's first in the nation March 13 presidential primary today.

William A. Joyce of Nashua filed as a delegate at large to the Democratic National Convention favorable to Harriman.

Under New Hampshire law, Joyce does not need Harriman's permission to run favorably to his candidacy.

A slate of delegates pledged to Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) and a slate favorable to Adlai E. Stevenson already have been filed in the Democratic side of the primary.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York—(U.P.)—Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 467.66, up 0.44; 20 railroads 155.38, up 0.57; 15 utilities 65.09, up 0.17, and 85 stocks 166.66, up 0.34. Sales today were about 1,770,000 shares compared with 2,080,000 yesterday.

Detention Home Site May Hit Snag

A possible snag in plans to locate the new county juvenile detention home in the fairgrounds area arose today.

It was pointed out that one of several alternate proposed routes for a state freeway passes near or through the site, which is located behind the present fairgrounds.

The county court has written the state highway commission asking if a definite answer can be given to the question of where the freeway is to be located. Alternative routes proposed are east or west of the city, one along Bear creek and another down Hawthorne and Cottage streets. Both of the latter routes would go through the area proposed for the home. A deed for the area, to transfer it from city to county ownership, is being prepared.

The highway commission has indicated hearings on proposed freeway locations will be held in Medford early in March.

The court has investigated a score of possible sites for the detention home, which was approved by the voters several years ago, but has rejected all but the fairgrounds site for various reasons.

Weather

FORECAST: Variable high cloudiness tonight and Saturday. Low tonight 24. High Saturday 55.

Highest Yesterday Temp. 56
Lowest this Morning 24

Red Cross Flood Rehabilitation Here May Total \$103,086, Officials Indicate

Red Cross flood rehabilitation expenses in Jackson and Josephine counties are expected to total \$103,086.36 when all applications for aid are completed, according to Miss Josephine McNamara, Red Cross disaster worker who has been in charge of rehabilitation work.

She made the report Thursday at the regular meeting of the board of directors of the Jackson County Red Cross chapter.

A total of 108 families and small businesses in Jackson county had received \$54,914.36 as of Wednesday, she said, and assistance in Josephine county totaled \$28,171.95.

Four Red Cross case workers who have assisted with work here will leave Saturday for Yuba City, Calif., for more flood rehabilitation, and Miss McNamara plans to return south Tuesday.

Explaining types of assistance

given locally, Miss McNamara said family assistance had been chiefly in the form of food, clothing, furniture and home repairs. Farmers have obtained maintenance expenses, fencing and feed for livestock. Three motels, one barber, a cafe and gas station received assistance.

One case required medical aid through Red Cross, she reported, and one death was flood-aggravated. Only one residence in need of complete replacement appeared on applications, she said, and that family received aid through payment of the mortgage on the destroyed home and financial help with the down-payment on another residence.

Averaged \$2,500 An average of \$2,500 help was received by each family seeking aid. Miss McNamara stressed that aid from Red Cross is in the form of "gifts, presented with

no strings attached" and no obligation to repay.

Manville Heisel, finance chairman, discussed plans for the coming fund-raising campaign for the county outside the United Medford Crusade area. He said the drive, which begins in March, will last several months, with volunteers concentrating on each community at a special time.

A report on last week's Portland meeting of Oregon and Washington Red Cross officials was made by Mrs. John Day. She spoke of the serious shortage in Red Cross disaster funds and stressed the fact that only 5 1/2 per cent of Red Cross donations goes for administration.

The board heard reports of the successful bloodmobile visits in Medford and Shady Cove this week, when 330 pints were collected in Medford and 179 in Shady Cove.



FROLICKING-LIKE KITTENS, these polar bear cubs are liveliest in history of Nuernberg, Germany, zoo. Equipped with formidable array of claws, they make ferocious passes at one another but miraculously escape injury. (International)