

Tax Commissioner Speaks At Meeting of Local Realtors

Adoption of the theory that the only fair kind of tax is "the tax someone else pays" can result only in economic and social disaster, Sam Stewart, state tax commissioner, said here yesterday.

Stewart spoke at the Medford hotel at a luncheon meeting of local realtors attending a real estate educational conference Wednesday and Thursday.

The tax commissioner pointed out there have been "dramatic increases" in taxes since 1940. "Yet, voters continually approve tax-increase measures," he stated.

Tax Relief Sought

"Now people are speaking primarily in terms of tax relief. Taxpayer organizations have been springing up in increasing numbers, with some opposing all tax increases and a larger group favoring a shift in the tax burden."

Stewart noted that Oregon's population has increased 40 per cent since 1940 and the rate of migration to Oregon has been high. "With more people, we should have more wage earners and taxpayers," he said. "But with the big increase in population, our age component has been changed. There are more children, and more people over the age of 65, who are neither wage earners nor taxpayers. Despite the population increase, the work force has remained static."

Income Down

He said Oregon's per capita income is below the national average for the first time in 17 years, yet the cost of living is up. He also noted an economic change has taken place in Oregon. "Oregon used to be thought of as a state supported largely by agriculture and extractive enterprises, such as mining, lumbering and fishing. Recently, urbanization and industrialization have

increased in importance to our economy."

The tax commissioner continued, "If we relieve the homeowner's tax burden, business and industry must assume a greater burden. We also hear business and industrial interests saying they are being forced out by high taxes. We need business and industry to produce employment and stabilize economy."

Property Tax Needed

Stewart emphasized the importance of property taxes. "Property taxes provide twice as much revenue as the income tax," he said, "and four times as much revenue as the gasoline tax."

Regarding a possible sales tax in Oregon, Stewart said, "It doesn't matter how the tax is paid, we still have to pay it." He noted that 96 per cent of the population earn less than \$10,000 a year. Four per cent earn over that amount. "Sixty per cent of our revenue is now paid by the 96 per cent group of wage earners, and 40 per cent of our revenue is paid by the 4 per cent group of wage earners. Sales tax is a regressive tax, which lays heavily on the low income group," he said.

The tax commissioner stated, "Existing inequities in property tax are what makes the tax bad. Property tax hasn't always been enforced." He added, "Any tax is an enforced contribution, and all forms of taxation are wrong in some respect."

Reappraisal Program

He spoke briefly concerning the current reappraisal program for property in the state. He said the reappraisal is not a matter of increasing or lowering taxes," he said. "But a matter of putting all property on the tax rolls."

Stewart said, "If you want good schools, roads, street lighting, police protection and other services, you have to pay for them." He said 80 per cent of the state budget consists of appropriations for public welfare, education, highways, health and hospital service. The local budget, he said, consists of 60 per cent school appropriations. Remaining major appropriations are for county, city and miscellaneous services.

Two-Day Conference

The conference held here was one of several being held throughout the state under sponsorship of the Million Dollar department. Subjects included contracts, descriptions, encumbrances, finding buyers, selling amenities, determining listing price, earnest money contracts, basic office records, real estate law, ethics and broker salesmanship relations.

Speakers and special guests in addition to Stewart were Ed Lucke, sales manager for John J. Clarke, Portland realtor, and president of the Million Dollar Club; Leavern Johnson, in charge of real estate census and business administration at the University of Oregon; Burton Dunn, educational supervisor for the state real estate department; Ray Schumaker, county assessor and past president of the Medford and state realty boards; E. L. Bartholomew, vice-president of the Oregon Association of Real

Estate boards; William Frohnmayer, president of the Medford Realty board; Ben Hilton, president of the Grants Pass board of realtors; Sam Tooley, past president of the Ashland Multiple Listing service and president of the Ashland Realty board; and Arzey Gagnet, auditor and examiner for the state real estate department.

Court of Honor Due Wednesday

Cave Junction—One of the largest Eagle Scout Courts of Honor ever held in the Crater Lake area is planned for 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 3 at the Illinois Valley High school.

Six explorers of troop 20 will receive their Eagle awards. Boys who have attained this highest plateau in scouting are Loren Meredith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Meredith, Mike Whiteley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Whiteley, Carl Hammer Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hammer, all of Cave Junction; Stanley Love, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Love, Daniel and Leroy Slanaker, sons of Mrs. Hazel Slanaker, all of O'Brien.

Dr. Elmo Stevenson, president of Southern Oregon college, will be the principal speaker. An Eagle presentation ceremony built around the theme "Being Prepared as Members of the Team," is planned by Scoutmaster Eugene Pulley and his assistant, Ralph Huber. To take part in the ceremony will be the two Scoutmasters, Richard Rauber, Life Scout; Gary Meredith, Eagle Scout; and Ray Ellstrom, district U. S. Forest Ranger. Myron Terpening of Grants Pass will speak as the Voice of the Eagle.

Eagle Badges

The Eagle badges, which are to be presented by District Scout Executive Dick Lamb, will be on display at the Bank of Illinois Valley from Friday until Wednesday.

Refreshments will be served by Scout mothers, assisted by the Illinois Valley Lions club. Glenn Morrison Post No. 70 of the American Legion are sponsors of the troop.

Two Jackson County Men Jailed in Yreka

Yreka—Two Jackson County men were lodged in jail at Yreka Tuesday night on charges involving liquor.

Lyle M. Russell, 39, Central Point, was charged with driving on the wrong side of the street. He also was charged with speeding and failure to stop at a through highway.

Charles E. Cooper, 29, Talent, was arrested on a charge of being intoxicated in public.

Yellowstone national park contains more geysers than all the rest of the world combined. The park was established by federal law in 1972.

First Salute to Stedman Show Draws Large Audience Thursday

The near-capacity audience which saw the opening performance of the "Salute to Stedman" show at Medford High school last night was delighted with the revue.

This was proven by the enthusiastic and sustained applause which greeted the numbers and followed the finale number.

The show which honors Robert Stedman, drama instructor at Medford High school now recovering in a Portland hospital from an extended illness, will be repeated tonight with curtain time at 8 o'clock. The proceeds will go towards the instructor's medical expenses.

Fast-Moving Show

The lively, fast-moving production is a combination of dramatic skits, song and dance acts. It is produced by Footlighters, in cooperation with the Medford school system, Colleen Hope's dance studio and other townspeople.

"A Day on Delancy Street" is the title of the two-act eight-scene production. All action in the show takes place on Delancy Street, a New York tenement district. The street is a cosmopolitan place dominated by Irish and Italian accents.

The show opens with Delancy Street coming to life with Tony, the traditional Italian organ grinder played by Russ Jamison, speaking to a group of Delancy Street tourists played by the Medford High school chorus.

Master of Ceremonies

Tony is a participating master of ceremonies whose clowning serves to introduce various scenes of the show. Also in the first scene are Ben Gault, Linda White and John Holmes.

Smooth continuity of the show is demonstrated by the transition from scene II, "Tony Reminisces," to scene III, "They Always Come Back." The scene features a children from Colleen Hope's dance studio whose appearances are interspersed throughout the show.

Four Irish and Italian tenement women played by Carol Schuler, Karen Bohls, Mary Wilson and Dee Clark are on stage for scene III. A sparkling number, "Penny Candy," is sung by Frankie Burton, concluding the scene as "the one who came back."

Following Scene

A scene titled "Mrs. Pat and the Law," follows. It features Frank Butcher, who convincingly plays an inebriated Pat, and Lenore Zapell, his uncritical wife.

Others in the scene are Kathy Zapell, Jim Sullivan and Jerry Jerome. A girls' trio composed of Colleen Barr, Rosemary Doolen and Sue Hall climax the scene with an Irish reel.

A boys' quartet which sings "Watching All the Girls Go By" is featured in scene V. They are Jay Muller, Larry Slesler, John Payne and Mike Stearns. Girls in the scene are Lois Elkins, Dee Cuthbertson, Charlotte Jensen and Barbara Pierce.

Four dancers conclude the act. They are Donna Johnson, Judy Alder, Jerry Chenault and Gene Kimbrell.

Imaginative Section

Most imaginative section of the production is scene II of Act II, where Paul Gandt narrates American and foreign versions of the old movie bit where "husband loses job, assumes wife will leave him but wife decides she loves him."

The American, Russian and Italian scenes are played by Lenore Zapell and Jerry McDougall; the English and Japanese versions are portrayed by Frankie Burton and Thayer Tarvin.

In each case the skit ends similar to that of the Japanese version with wife "clinging to honorable husband like oatmeal clings to honorable ribs!"

Tenor Voice

A refreshing voice is that of Larry Brunette, the Irish cop, who sang "You're the Daughter of Mother Machree." The song serves to reconcile the "girl," played by Janet Swift, and "boy," played by Charles Rowan, in a Romance in the Park scene. Brunette also appeared earlier in the show.

A particularly delightful number that especially triggered audience response features Lenore Zapell, whose vocal interpretations of "Pavlova" and "Dinah" are of professional caliber. "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue" is a ballet scene which some might consider a bit over-sophisticated for an audience having many children and high school students.

The ballet stars Colleen Hope and Jack Rouhier. Other dancers are Pat Hilton, Linda Durkee, Louise Lull, Sylvia Smith, Rosemary Tokar, Mary Annette

Rentz, Sharon Laing, Julianne Yoakley, Kathleen Larimer, Lola Good, Ronnie Hannon and Paul Zeleznik.

Music, Comedy

Music in the show is well integrated with comedy scenes. The Medford High school chorus, directed by Lynn Sjolund, is creatively worked into the production several times. An accordion medley by Caesar Muzzioli also was well received last night.

The show's gay mood is established by the Medford High school band in both the overture and finale, under the direction of L. A. Mirick. The band concludes the show with a vigorous medley from "My Fair Lady."

Show Staff

Production staff of the show includes Mrs. Ivan Burton, general chairman; Ray Lewis, musical continuity and arrangements; Colleen Hope, choreographer; Frank Butcher, stage manager and director of crowd scenes; Ray Lewis and Melody Pierce, accompanists; Warren Wolf, set design; Bernard Roberts, set con-

Friday, March 29, 1957

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

struction; Lavetus Wimmer, properties; Mary Kelly, newspaper publicity; Ruth Kibbourn, prompter; and Jerry McDougall, director of makeup.

The Medford public school staff is in charge of lights and sound, stage crew, radio publicity, tickets, programs, box office and ushers.—E.C.

The canal lock at Ymuiden, Holland is the largest in the world, is believed. It is 1,312 feet in length and has a width of 164 feet.

Scottish Troops Get Help From Two Cats

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia—(U.P.) Two tom cats joined Scottish Highland troops today in a battle against rats infesting the barracks at the Pahang jungle fort.

Sambo and Ginger were parachuted from a helicopter and received VIP treatment from the killed Scots who have been fighting Communist raiders in Malaysia, as well as the rats.

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