

Novel State Income Tax Plan Draws Interest of Committee

Salem - (UPI) - House Tax Committee members expressed interest in a novel state income tax plan here Wednesday.

But they appeared unresponsive to a proposal to send a sales tax plan out to voters, even after seeing a proposed ballot.

The Mosser income tax plan and the Rogers-McKinnis sales tax proposals occupied the committee Wednesday as it continued a general survey of major revenue-raising measures.

Also before the committee was the governor's net receipts income tax, the Muma income tax plan, the Eymann-Overhulse income tax for property tax relief, and the cigarette tax bill.

Rep. John Mosser (R-Beaverton) said his plan would raise some \$43.5 million in new revenues.

Features Listed

Its essential features are a flat 5 per cent tax, with increased exemptions to give lower bracket relief. It would eliminate the federal income tax and capital gains deductions, and allow other deductions only in excess of 10 per cent of income.

Mosser said in spite of the flat rate, his plan in effect would retain the graduated income tax because of the exemptions.

He said key features of the plan were its simplicity and the removal of pressure on tax payers to escape higher tax brackets.

Mosser said taxpayers in the lower brackets are carrying most of the income tax load now. He said Oregon's income tax under the present graduated structure averages out at 5.1 per cent.

Reps. Joe Rogers (R-Independence) and Don McKinnis (D-Summersville) said the legislature should submit a sales tax plan to the voters.

Rogers said the voters should be given alternative

tax plans, plus a chance to reject both of them. He added a legal precedent for a vote on a choice of tax plans was set in 1947 - when the voters defeated cigarette and sales taxes.

The Rogers 3-cent sales tax would raise some \$152 million a biennium. The McKinnis plan, which exempts food, would raise about \$128 million.

Both would use part of the lake for property tax relief.

Rogers said he thinks any tax plan will get to the voters sooner or later. He said the legislature could increase public confidence and reduce organized resistance by a referendum.

Rogers conceded a sales tax would shift a burden onto the average consumer. But he said it is this consumer, rather than property and business

interests, that is asking for increased services such as schools, welfare and police.

McKinnis said a sales tax, in effect, would tend to "equalize" the tax burden.

McKinnis said farming is worth \$500 million a year, and Rogers said unless property taxes are relieved, "You're going to drive a great many farmers out of this Willamette Valley."

Other Highlights

Farm Labor - The Senate Health and Welfare Committee was asked to approve a bill to let state health officers close unsanitary farm labor camps in cases where there is no county officer.

Higher Education - Legislative Fiscal Officer Kenneth Bragg said higher admission standards would be a better way to discourage out of state students than higher student fees.

Gasoline - Rep. Fred Meek (D-Portland) said he plans a bill aimed at cutting down on gasoline price wars.

News - Reps. Kessler Cannon (R-Bend) and Merrill Hagan (R-McMinnville) said they are sponsoring a bill to bring full radio, television and news coverage into the courtroom.

Medford Enrolled In Safety Program

Mayor James Dunlevy has announced enrollment of the city of Medford in the 1963 AAA Pedestrian Safety program, sponsored by the Oregon State Motor association.

The city's pedestrian accident prevention activities and the actual pedestrian death and injury record for the year will be analyzed by the AAA traffic experts at the end of the year. Cities with the best programs and the best accident records receive awards.

"The AAA Pedestrian Safety program has two important values to cities that enter and file pedestrian accident reports," Charles E. Snell, president of the Oregon AAA motor club, said.

It enables city officials to evaluate the effectiveness of their own accident prevention activities and it serves as a national recognition for the safety work of city officials who win awards as a result of the program and accident record.

California Eyes Limit on Number In School Class

Sacramento - (UPI) - A powerful group of state senators was preparing legislation today that would set a limit on the number of students in a public school class.

A spokesman for the group, who declined to be identified, said that the men had not yet settled on a limit, but that they were consulting various studies and suggestions.

The legislation was certain to cause a furor in public schools, where many administrators are already angry at a legislative attempt to cut class sizes by requiring the schools to spend more money for teachers.

The legislature made its attempt two years ago when it passed a bill requiring elementary districts to spend 60 per cent of their income on teachers' salaries. High school districts were required to spend 50 per cent and unified districts 55 per cent.

The bill's author, Assemblyman Charles B. Garrigus (D-Redding) said that he believed the schools were underpaying for teachers, not because of a fund shortage but because they were spending too much on administrators and other non-teaching employees.

This is the same opinion held by the senators who are preparing the new legislation. However, they believe that their approach will clamp down on administrative costs even harder than the old Garrigus bill, which they supported.

Actually, according to Garrigus, his bill has not been in effect a full year because of technical delays in the start of its operation. However, legislation has been introduced in the current session to repeal it.

Sen. Donald Grunsky (R-Watsonville) author of the repeal, said that because of the Garrigus bill many school districts were being forced to cut expenditures for instructional supplies, books and "enrichment" materials, postpone maintenance, and curtail or reduce the number of librarians and counselors.

Raising Academic Standards For Higher Education Proposed

Salem - (UPI) - Raising tuition fees will not result in big decreases in out-of-state enrollments, the Ways and Means higher education subcommittee was told here Wednesday.

Legislative fiscal officer Kenneth Bragg said a better method would be to raise academic standards. He said that 2,709 of Oregon's 6,264 out-of-state students come from California where tuition in state colleges is \$76 and at state universities \$130.

Committee members then turned to projected enrollments and became bogged down in statistics.

Bragg wouldn't predict whether higher education's projections were low or high. He suggested setting \$2 million aside in the emergency board in case the estimates were low.

Rep. Stafford Hansell (R-Hermiston) said he might ask that out-of-state enrollments be limited to 10 per cent of an institution's freshman class.

Bragg opposed a suggestion by Rep. John Mosser (R-Beaverton) that the legislature appropriate an "open end" amount to be based on actual enrollment.

In discussion of projected enrollments, it was brought out that some figures were based on present high school enrollments, and others on a percentage of persons between 18 and 24 years of age.

Hansell's attempts to get all the statistics relating to a single set of figures brought chuckles from fellow members.

Police Arrest Local Man on Check Charge

Medford police Wednesday arrested Ronald Leslie Barry, 24, of 13 Newtown st., on a charge of obtaining property under false pretenses. He was lodged in Jackson county jail.

Barry gave statements to officers admitting he had recently written six bad checks.

Americans spent \$62.2 billion in 1961 for foods originated on farms in the United States.

Higher Education Chancellor Roy E. Lieuallen explained that lower and higher education had coordinated their figures so that there would be no overlapping. He admitted enrollment projections were uncertain and "could go either way."

He also told committee members he wanted "to take a look" at Bragg's suggestion to place \$2 million with the emergency board.

Foreign Briefs

BUS PLUNGE KILLS 17 IN NEW ZEALAND

Waitangi, New Zealand - (UPI) - A bus loaded with Maori natives plunged over a 100-foot cliff near Maungaturoro Wednesday, killing 17 and injuring 16 of the 33 persons aboard.

POPE ALWAYS SPEAKS OF DESIRE FOR PEACE

Vatican City - (UPI) - Pope John XXIII said Wednesday when he meets with heads of state and other government leaders, he always speaks to them of his desire for peace.

The Pope, addressing a general audience, described himself as a man of peace and said it was his task "to make everyone feel this breath of peace."

BEST-SELLER BANNED IN TORONTO SCHOOL

Toronto - (UPI) - A suburban high school principal today banned J. D. Salinger's "Catcher in the Rye" to grade 11 students because the book was described as "full of profane language and lewd suggestions."

Principal W. D. A. Douglas of East York Collegiate said the book was removed from the "recommended list" for grade 11 students, after East York Town Councillor James A. McConaghy denounced the best-seller in a letter to the school board.

Douglas said the book had been recommended by an English department teacher but added: "It is just not worth the trouble. It is not that important and it is not even in our school library."

LAUNDRONAUT RECORD

Berkeley, Calif. - (UPI) - Laundronaut Lawrence E. Scanlon today claimed a record of 1,171 revolutions in orbit - in a clothes dryer. The University of California freshman said his big spin took 28 minutes in a dryer left partly open to keep down the heat.

Texas oil and gas provide 28 per cent of the fuel energy produced in the United States.

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