

Salem Scene

by Everett E. Cutter

Senate President Sees Early Tax Reform Vote

If the Senate President gets his first wish this year, Oregonians will vote in late March or early April on tax reform—probably on a retail sales tax measure with provisions for property tax relief and limitations.

"I want to refer to the people a realistic tax program and not just something to vote on," Sen. E. D. ("Debs") Potts, D-Grants Pass, declared two days after his reelection as Senate leader by Republican and conservative Democrat coalition members.

"Whether tax reform will be approved is something we just don't know until a sound program is submitted," he continued. "But last November's vote on the 1½ per cent limitation sent the message—certainly sent a message to me—that people want lower property taxes. And that means a complete tax overhaul."

Sen. Potts is confident that the upper chamber will be prepared to act quickly on any proposals sent from the house, where revenue measures originate.

He has reappointed Sen. Harry Boivin, D-Klamath Falls, to the Taxation Committee chairmanship. Armed with the experience of 1967's reg-

ular and special sessions, research of the House tax group and senators' recommendations from interim studies, the Senate Taxation Committee "will have a good tax program, similar to the program which in 1967 was defeated by one vote."

Adds Sen. Potts: "This session, I don't believe will lack that vote."

Now it would appear the sales tax will have more support all around. The House Taxation Committee was among the first to meet; it is studying the sales tax. And Gov. Tom McCall's program coincides in its major provisions with the ill-fated 1967 legislative package.

Most agreement, and the governor's recommendations, now center around a 3 percent retail sales tax and 16-2/3 per cent corporate tax increase to raise state funds necessary to bring state aid for local school operating costs up to 50 per cent, and thus lighten the load of local property taxpayers. (The Oregon Education Association has estimated that basic school support this year will amount to only 17.7 per cent.)

Sen. Potts supports this concept—"we have been trying to attain that 50 per cent figure since I've been in the legislature"—and agrees that there

must be a property tax limitation tied to any reform if it is to accomplish its purpose. He would prefer a tax refund instead of sales tax exemptions; possibly the refund could vary in relation to a taxpayer's earning power and proportion of his income he spends on such necessities as food and drugs.

The amicable Senate leader also supports Gov. McCall's proposal to completely phase out Oregon's inventory tax, but would like to see it eliminated at a rate faster than 5 per cent annually.

"It's the most unfair tax there is," he states flatly. "Business has been more than fair with the legislature; in the 1967 special session it took cuts in its tax relief appropriation right along with state departments and agencies."

In most other legislative areas, Sen. Potts is more cautious, preferring to wait and see what may be needed. He believes last session's beach bill was a good one, for example, and that next steps should be taken only after recommendations come from the Highway Department.

Air and water quality legislation, likewise, must be built upon solidified results of the landmark laws passed here two years ago. Election laws reform and Constitutional revision, to include consideration of the Project 70's Task Force ideas, also are slated for circumspect priority in the Senate.

Sen. Potts is confident that the standing committees he appointed will prove equal to the task of solving the most complex problems.

"Our main theme," he says, "is to do what is best for all Oregonians and not act in the narrow spirit of party politics."

"No party has a corner on brains, and we are going to use the very best brains in the Senate to give every idea fair consideration."

He hopes to hold more committee hearings in the evening, to allow interested citizens more opportunities to testify. He hopes to "keep everybody working" on the 22 Senate committees, which are chaired by members of both parties with political persuasions all along the liberal-conservative spectrum.

"We have to keep busy, and we have to do what is best for the people," Sen. Potts sums up. "This session we are dealing with problems, not with politics."

CHURCH NEWS

Calvary Lutheran
Stayton
First Ave. and Fern Ridge Rd.
Rev. Paul Emmel, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a. m.
Worship Service 10:30 a. m.

Mill City Community Church
Rev. Donald L. Dishong, Pastor
Full Gospel
Sunday School 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A. M.
Evening Service 7:30 P. M.
Wednesday Evening 7:30 P. M.
Everyone welcome.

Community Presbyterian
Rev. Arne V. Magnuson, Pastor
Mehama, Oregon
9:45 a. m. Church School.
(Classes for all ages)
11:00 a. m. Worst'ip Service.

Canyon Conservative Baptist
Rev. Robert Lathrop
Services in New Church
in Lyons
Sunday school 9:45 a. m.
Morning Worship 11 a. m.
Training Hour, 6:00 P. Mm.
Evening Service, 7 o'clock.
Wednesday evening Bible study and prayer time 7 p. m.

Seventh Day Adventist
S. W. Ivy St. Mill City
R. G. Letcher, Pastor
11 a. m. Worship service.
7 p. m. Wednesday prayer meeting.

First Christian Church
Minister Charles E. Fultz.
Bible School, 9:45 a. m.
11 a. m. Sermon Topic is: "A Jonah Missionary".
Youth service 5:30 p. m.
Evening service at 7 p. m.

Free Methodist Church
North Mill City
Rev. John DeMain
9:45 a. m. Sunday school.
11 a. m. Morning Worship.
6 p. m. Young People's Service.
7 p. m. Evening Worship.

Mill City Presbyterian
James C. Murray, Pastor
Sunday School at 9:45 a. m.
Morning Worship Service at 11 o'clock a. m. Sermon "The Courage To Encourage!"
Nursery through adult classes.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Richard W. Wells,
Branch President—585-4442
Meetings at Stayton Branch Chapel - Westtown Subdivision
Priesthood Meetings 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Sacrament Meeting 6:00
Relief Society Tuesday 7:30
MIA Wednesday 7:30
Primary Thursday 4:30

Lyons Methodist Church
8th and Ash St.
Phone 859-2540
Rev. Greg Johanson, Pastor
Welcomes you to come as you are.
Sunday School 9:45 a. m.
The Church in Worship 11 a. m.

Assembly of God
Lyons, Oregon
Douglas Montze, Pastor
Phone 859-3364
Sunday School, 9:45 a. m.
Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m.
Evening Service, 7:00 p. m.
Wednesday evening Middle Week Service, family night.

Santiam Chapel
2nd and 4th Thursday eve. 7 p. m. W. M. C.'s Youth Service or C. A.'s 6:30 Sunday evenings.

St. Patrick's Parish
Rev. Bernard Neuman, Pastor
Lyons
Mass: 1st, 2nd and 5th Sunday at 10:30 a. m.
Mass 3rd and 4th Sunday at 8:30 a. m.

St. Catherine's Catholic
Masses Every Sunday
Mill City 9:00 a. m.
Detroit at 11:00 a. m.

Idanha Community Church
Rev. Harold Roth, Pastor
Jean Rith, S. S. Supt.
Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.
Morning Service, 11:44 a. m.
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 p. m.
Bible Study, Wednesday 7:30 p. m.
Junior Choir and Bible Club.
Adult Choir, Saturday at 7:30 p. m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
Jordan
Mass 3rd and 4th Sunday at day at 8:30 a. m.
Mass: 1st, 2nd, and 5th Sunday.

Gates Church of Christ
10 a. m. Sunday school.
11 a. m. Worship service.
Detroit Church of Christ
Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.
Morning Worship, 11 o'clock.
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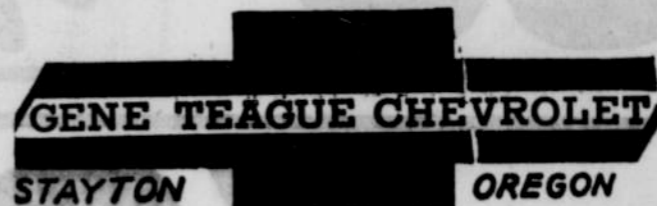
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EAGER BEAVER

"Hard work never hurt anyone," Eddie Beaver always said. He worked faster than anyone else in the shop. But Eddie's union had a rule that any member who produced more than the set piece-rate must take time off. His extra production would be "banked" and he could take time off or use the extra work to get full pay when the shop work slowed down.

Eddie disobeyed the rule. He kept on working faster than the rule allowed, and taking less time off. His union warned Eddie to slow down, or it would "fine" him. Eddie and his employer complained that the rate was unfair.

When the union fined him, Eddie went to court, but lost. He had to pay the fine.

Joining a union is somewhat like joining a club. If most members vote a course of action, you either go along or pay the penalty. If you disagree with its policies, your best bet is to try to work within the organization to bring about change.

Eddie's union had voted the piece-work limit to help its members, and the employer had agreed. Doing the work slowly promoted safety, and the older and slower men could keep up the pace. The rule spared them embarrassment or even their jobs.

The law watches labor and management closely, limiting what they may do.

Oregon lawyers offer this column as a public service. No person should apply or interpret any law without the aid of an attorney who is completely advised of the facts involved. Even a slight variance in fact may change the application of the law.)

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