# MEHAMA

Mrs. John Teeters

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Bass and sons Rodney and Robert of Fallbrook, Calif., came Sunday, March 23, for a weeks visit at the home of her mother, Violet Wallen, and to see other relatives, especially her brother, Sam, who is receiving treatment in the U. of O. Medical School Hospital in Portland.

The Tyke Sherwood family spent several days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Callahan, Jr. and children, Kelly and Michael, while they were the Florence area to Lebanon. in the process of moving from

Jean Roberts of Astoria was a Mehama visitor on Tuesday of last week.

Mrs. Alfred Schneider was hostess at her home Sunday, March 23, for an early Easter dinner as her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crook, were here from Boise, Ida. Present for the day were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crook and daughter Tracy, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Crook, Greg, Kim and Kellie from Mill City, Mrs. Vernon Goodell, Lyons and Mr. and Mrs. Schneider.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wright went to Sutherlin Sunday, March 23, where they spent the day with their son, Leslie. Guests from Tuesday to Saturday last week at the Wright home were their daughter, Mrs. Ray Sarvela, and her daughter, Cynthia and Annette, from Coos Bay.

Easter Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Shafer were their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Shafer, Jr., Diane, John III and Marti from St. Paul.

Annette Christensen of Portland spent the weekend at the home of her aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ayers and family.




# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO THE EDITOR:

Oregon Revised Statutes 118.050 reads as follows:

118.050 PENSION, RETIREMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION. There shall be exempt from taxation under the provisions of ORS 118.005 to 118.-840 the value of all benefits not exceeding the sum of $20,000 payable to each beneficiary other than to the estate or to the executor or administrator of the estate of a deceased person, under:

(1) The National Social Security Act,

(2) The National Railroad Retirement Act,

(3) Any penson or retirement plan established by federal or state government or any municipaity or any political subdivision of the state, and

(4) Any pension or retirement plan or trust established by an employer which qualifies for income tax exemptions under the Federal Internal Revenue Code.

(Amended by 1955 c.727 #2: 1963 c.392 #1: 1967 c.485 #1)

In otherwords, any widow or widower is required to pay a tax, based on how many years they are expected to live and draw any survivors pension. Irrespective of the fact that they might die the next day or if living, pay income tax on all, or part, of the pension.

An attempt is being made to repeal this unfair provision—HB 2140 in the house revenue committe — seeks to do exactly that.

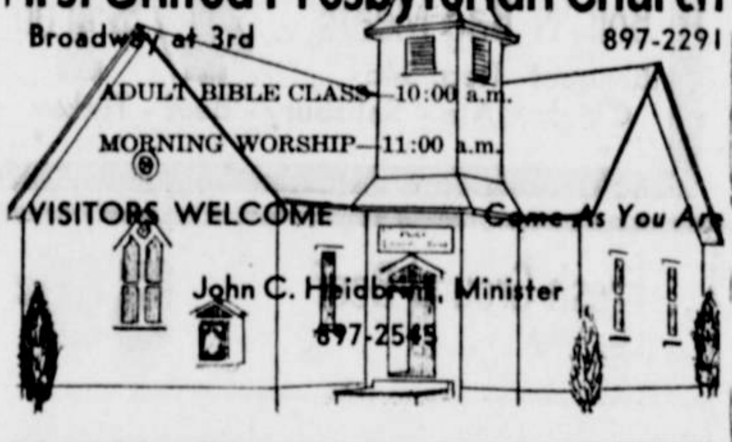
Unfortunately, most people don't know, and some just won't believe, that Oregon could be so backward and unjust as to be one of only seven states in the United States to have such a law.

What is needed to pry the repeal law out of committee is a cry from the people who are, or may be, victimized by this unjust law. I urge your readers to write to their legislator and demand that the law be repealed NOW! !

Oregon can't be so financially and morally bankrupt that it must exist on the paltry amounts left to support widows and orphans.

Sincerely,
VERLE W. RUSSELL
4547 S. E. Meldrum
Milwaukie, Oregon 97222







# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Kenneth Jernstedt
911 Pine Street
Hood River, Oregon 97031

The legislature's joint trade and economic development committee is now considering what could be the most unique, unparalleled economic program nationwide. Recently, the committee staff presented the first part of what is called the legislative economic action plan — a concept where government steps in when the economy of a local area is troubled.

This is indeed a first. Traditionally, committees of the legislature have responded to proposals already introduced, not initiated their own proposals.

But the trade and economic development committee was charged with developing economic stimulation programs when it was formed by the 1973 legislature, and the committee — on which I serve — has been working on programs to meet that charge.

The first program is the emergency economic assistance plan, which sets up the system for the state to respond in times of economic disaster and crisis on the local level. The state would send in an economic recovery team, which would work with local officials to develop the best ways to stimulate the economy of the troubled area. That would be done by reallocating state and federal monies and projects, and providing tax incentives for business growth. In addition, projects pending in the permit process would be speeded up.

After a certain length of time — depending on the local circumstances — the state's role would be ended. In this way, the state is in — and out —within a specified time. That time would be longer in cases of chronic or cyclical economic ills.

The plan, which now will be refined by the committee and put in bill form, is something Oregon can indeed be proud of. This is a new, unique approach, and deserves the support of the legislature, state government and the business community.

The debate on the field burning issue in the senate agriculture and natural resources committee is all but wrapped up, as the committee will report out a four-year extension to the open burning ban by the end of next week. The extension will only pertain to nine Willamette Valley counties, between Portland and Eugene.

Look for the amended SB 311 to pass the senate, but run into some roadblocks in the house. The entire field burning issue, I feel, will be resolved in conference committee between the two houses of the legislature. And what kind of compromise will depend on the conferees appointed by the leaders of the legislature — who have differing views on the burning issue.

If the entire legislative process breaks down, we could end up passing a two year extension, with no changes in the current smoke management and burning fee program. That would leave the issue in the laps of the 1977 legislature.

I continue to receive responses to my newspaper issues poll, sent out to papers in District 28 some two weeks ago. Again I would like to thank both the editors, for printing the survey, and the more than 550 people who took the time to fill out the questionnaire and return it to my office.

Be assured that the final results will be sent to you through the newspapers, and your feelings will be heard when those issues hit the senate floor.





Jack Sumner
Rte. 1, Heppner, Ore. 97836
Phone 676-5364

This week let's look at the problems we are faced with preparing the budget for the State of Oregon.

State agencies will be forced to pull in their belts during the coming biennium.

But the Oregon Legislature is not trying to tighten a noose around anyone's neck. All we are after is a balanced budget.

The only way to achieve this is to total up anticipated revenues from existing sources and hold expenditures to that figure.

Many Oregonians are paying increased taxes on higher wages, despite the fact that purchasing power continues to drop. However, about 10% of the total work force is unemployed. The net effect is a loss of revenue and a further drain on the state's resources.

In addition, corproate tax revenues are declining along with profits.

The prospect of a state budget surplus, clouded at the outset by inflation, has swung full circle. We're now staring at the very real necessity of having to slice an additional $14.3 million from the governor's recommended budget.

This means, of course, we are not going to be able to fund any new programs without first making additional cuts in current budget recommendations. And it means we're counting on any immediate sources of new revenue —just the dollars we know are available.

It's a cinch we're not going to raise property taxes. We made that clear when we increased basic school support to its highest level in 20 years as a means of easing that tax burden.

And we're not even considering an across-the-board increase in our other principal source of revenue, the income tax.

That leaves us with one alternative: cut costs.

The legislative ways and means committee at this point has passed out 70% of this session's budget bills, accounting for 37% of the total general fund expenditures of $1.45 billion.

Program additions are the first items to feel the ax. Beyond that, the agency must justify its program levels. And even if the need for additional funds is obvious, the requirements of that agency must be weighed against the requirements of every other agency.

We're zeroing in on those budget recommendations we view as non-essential. One is the proposal to tap the general fund for $20 million to spur construction of multi-family housing. If we had the money, of course, this plan would be desirable from several standpoints. But we don't have the money.

A welfare increase may be offset by a proposed $4 million cut that would halt plans for a general office building on the capitol mall. Another program that might fall by the wayside is stream bank erosion control.

Some state agencies, notably the department of transportation, will be unable to fulfill their obligations without new sources of funding. Costs are escalating, and the needs of the motoring public continue to grow.

A number of new transportation revenue measures have been introduced, including a two-cent increase in the state's gasoline tax, an additional weight-mile tax on common carriers and an excess cubic inch displacement tax on 1976 and later model cars. These three alone could provide the funds necessary to help maintain highway programs.

But we can't b... our budget decisions on money we may never see. If these revenue measures were turned down by the voters, our balanced budget would be tossed into turmoil.

Inflation is causing enough headaches right now, but it shows every sign of going from bad to worse. If the cost of living continues to increase at its present rate, and if state revenues stay at present levels, the 1977 legislative assembly could face a huge deficit.

Add to this the fact that federal revenue sharing may be terminated 18 months into the next biennium, eliminating $44 million from our basic school support budget, and you can see just how critical the situation may become.

We're doing everything we can to hold the line on state spending, but the time has come when citizens will have to decide between higher taxes or greatly curtailed services. We get complaints about taxes but numerous requests come in for new programs, improved programs and better service which require funding. Which do you want?

If you have any questions concerning legislative problebs, please contact me at 107K Capitol Bldg., Salem, Oregon 97310. My phone number is 378-8849. Information on bills or legislative matters can also be obtained by calling the toll free information number 1-800-452-0290.

# LYONS

by Eva Bressler

Thursday visitors at the home of Lulu Cory were Mrs. Maxine Hays and daughters Mollie and Brownwyn and daughter Robyn and two sons Jamie and Shawn and her grandson Zac all from Lake Oswego.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Johnson of Auburn, Wash. arrived Thursday evening to spend the remainder of the week at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Alex Bodeker.

Mrs. Effie Nydegger of Salem arrived Thursday night from Honolulu at the home of her daughter Mr. and Mrs. William Grimes. She will spend several days here until after Easter.

Sandy Demke of Hillsboro who has spent the last two weeks at the home of her aunt Mrs. Bessie Jobe will return home Monday.

Relatives and friends honored Mrs. Lyle Kinzer on her 75th birthday with a party at her home. Attending were Mrs. Ruby Easton, a sister, Crawford Boyle, a brother, and Mr. and Mrs. Brick Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mouser of Crabtree, Mrs. Gladys Clatte and grandchildren, Laura and Russ of Stayton, Tracie Boyanovsky of Scio and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Kinzer and family of Lyons.

Mehama-Lyons Tops, or 700, has chosen new leaders for the coming year. The 1975-76 president is Barbara Orr; vice-president, Carolyn Rollins; secretary, Jewell Choate and treasurer, Penne Bilyeu. Anyone wishing to join the morning TOPS is welcome to come. They meet at the Mehama school every Thursday 9.30 to 10.30 a.m.

Mrs. Bea Cherrier of Everett, Wash., and her son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Weasma of Seattle, Wash., spent Thursday thru Sunday at the Leonard Blum home.

Mrs. Minnie Manning of Salem is spending this week at the home of her sister, Mrs. Katie Skillings. She also visited at the home of another sister, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Toomb on McCully Mountain and, also, a brother, Mr. and Mrs. William Kuiken of Lyons.

Following Easter services at all churches many bountfiul dinners were served with guests here and others going elsewhere.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Williams and two daughters Mrs. Evelyn Williams and daughter Sandra of Portland and Mr. and Mrs. Robert White and family of Vancouver, Wash., were guests at the home of Mrs. Bessie Jobe.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Toomb of McCully Mtn., Mrs. Minnie Manning of Salem and Mrs. Ethel Wyman of Albany were dinner guests of Mrs. Katie Skillings.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Manning, Larry Manning and Shawna and Mrs. Eva Bressler were dinner guests in Stayton at the home of Mrs. Manning's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sim Etzel. Additional guests were Mr. and Mrs. Rich Manning of Stayton.

Mrs. Charlotte Thiel and her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Cameron from North Bend were weekend guests at the home of Mrs. Thiel's daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walton.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Williams and daughter, Heidi, were dinner guests at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Williams in Stayton.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Bodeker were Mr. and Mrs. Norman Johnson of Auburn, Wash., who were weekend guests. Additional Sunday dinner guests were Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hampton, David and Shelley of Salem, and Curt and Eric Johnson from Auburn, Wash.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark McPheeters were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Morman.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lindemann and children were guests at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lindemann.

Mrs. Bea Hiatt and her sister, Mrs. Gladys Nygaard, were dinner guests in Albany at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Elmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Spellmeyer and their son and family, Mr and Mrs. Jerry Spellmeyer and daughter of Silverton, were weekend guests at Longview, Wash., and Sunday dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Blocks.

Mr. and Mrs. Orval Landers were guests with their daughter, Miss Linda Landers, at Monmouth.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Huber were Mr. and Mrs. George Keeley of Portland, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Oliver and family and Darrell Huber of Salem, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Huber and Jo Peters of Stayton.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reynolds and her mother, Mrs. Florence Darling, were dinner guests at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Branch of near Scio.

Dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Johnston were Kenton Johnston of Corvallis and Bob Johnston of Lyons.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Downing were hosts for a family dinner at a Salem restaurant Saturday evening celebrating Easter dinner and their 50th wedding anniversary. Guests attending were Mr. and Mrs. Duane Downing, Walla Walla, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brown, Crescent City, Calif.; Dennie Brown, Corvallis; Maureen Brown, Redding, Calif.; Dawn Critser, Crescent City, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Alan Wickizer, Van Nuys, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carleton and Barbara, The Dalles, Larry and Cathy Carleton, Portland; Carolyn Carleton, Corvallis, Keith Pridie, Bend; Effie Nydegger, Salem; and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Urich, Olympia, Wash.

Mrs. Anne Pietrok and Louise were dinner guests in Aumsville at the home of her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Hendricks and children.

Mrs. Leora Stevens was a dinner guest in Mill City at the home of her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Scott.

If the number following your name on The Enterprise label reads 3-75 it is time to send a check for renewal.


"I remember when you used to look at me that way."

# THE FAMILY LAWYER

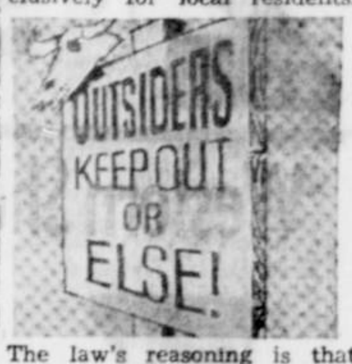
**Keeping Outsiders Out**

"THIS PARK IS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS ONLY. ALL OTHERS KEEP OUT."

Could a city lawfully put up such a sign?

Of course, any community may favor its own residents in a variety of ways — for example, in providing police and fire protection.

But there are constitutional limitations to this kind of "discrimination" against outsiders. Generally speaking, a city cannot keep its parks exclusively for local residents.




The law's reasoning is that parks are, by their very nature, meant for "the common good of mankind."

One beach community, hoping to reduce the annual summer influx of out-of-towners, tried a less drastic means of control. Anybody using the beach was required to pay a fee — and the fee for nonresidents was set considerably higher than for residents.

But here too, a court held that the discrimination was unconstitutional. Relying on a "public trust" doctrine, the court said:

"The beach and the open waters must be open to all on equal terms. While municipalities may charge reasonable fees for the use of their beaches, they may not discriminate between residents and nonresidents."

On the other hand, discrimination might be upheld if it is realistically necessary to prevent overcrowding. Another case involved a small municipal swimming pool, from which the city tried to exclude nonresidents.

This time, a court decided that the residents-only rule was lawful. Without such a rule, said the court, the local citizenry would be virtually "frozen out" of their own facility.

After all, noted the court, they were paying for the pool with their taxes.