

The Evening Herald

F. R. SOULE, Editor and Publisher
H. R. MILLER, City Editor
F. C. NICKLE, Advertising Manager

Published daily except Sunday, at The Herald Publishing Company of Klamath Falls, at 119 Eighth street.

Entered at the postoffice at Klamath Falls, Ore., for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1922.

THE TAX PROBLEM

THE people of Oregon have elected a governor who is pledged primarily to a program of tax revision. He is of opposite political faith to The Herald, his election was opposed by The Herald as vigorously as possible—but some two weeks hence he will become the chief executive of the state, and The Herald sincerely hopes that his tax leveling and revising program will succeed, and will do whatever small thing it can to aid.

Let us not deceive ourselves. Development of industry in the United States is seriously impeded, the whole nation is held under a tightly drawn economic check rein, because our national taxation system lacks the elemental basis of fairness and common sense.

Millions upon millions of dollars that might be capitalizing new industries, is invested in tax-exempt securities, because the present basis of taxation is openly and notoriously a move to "take it out of the rich."

Taxation regulated on the ability to pay is natural and practical and agreed to by all just men. Those who would make the poor man pay in exact ratio to the rich, as their incomes are proportionate, are shortsighted and unjust, because in the case of the poor man an interference with his right to the necessities of life is created, which must properly be objected to as a hindrance to the development of the best qualities of citizenship in himself and his family.

At the same time, the practical experience of the last few years has shown that the excessive surtax imposed on wealth in this country has caused the rich man to put his money into non-taxable securities, instead of lending it to productive enterprise.

With what result? The aggregate income subject to surtaxes, the investigators tell us, and the government records of industrial development which are available to any one bear them out, has been reduced to one-half of what it was in the first year of imposition, and the end is not yet.

The wealth still exists. The large individual incomes have not been reduced. They have simply been diverted to escape the burden of taxation. In consequence, hundreds of enterprises that might now be profitably running are laid aside, or have not even been created, and thousands of hands and minds that might be creating new wealth for the country are unprofitably employed, or idle.

It is not a condition that has not been recognized, nor is it a question of partisan politics. One democratic president, one republican president, three democratic and one republican secretaries of the treasury, have advocated a heavy reduction of surtaxes by congress, but congress has remained inactive because it has not been spurred from the source to which it looks for inspiration.

In other words the people, and that means the citizens of Klamath county in common with every other section of the nation, have not given expression to their ideas for the guidance of their individual representatives.

The majority of the people of the United States live in cities of less than five thousand population or on the farms of the nation. So this problem of taxation is essentially the problem of the people of the small communities.

The farmer cannot prosper when the general business enterprise of the country is withering.

And a close scrutiny of numerous government census reports, covering a variety of American enterprises, according to an analysis by Edward Perry Howard, a newspaper investigator, shows a most spectacular decline in industry.

Not one in a hundred lines of business shows a normal increase; not one in two hundred but shows an actual decline in production.

An issue so alarming cannot permanently be dodged. But unfortunately it is hard to awake the average person to any sense of concern over the falling off in production of an article with which he has no intimate connections—of wheel-barrows, for instance.

Yet the falling off in the production of wheel-barrows affects a dozen other industries. It curtails immediately mining and lumbering, for steel and wood are the essentials of wheel-barrow construction. It reduces the market of the manufacturer who sells tools to the iron miner, and equipment to the lumberman. It cuts the income of the foundryman, the paint manufacturer and the man who makes the stencils through which the manufacturer ultimately stamps his trademark on the finished barrow.

It curtails the business of the banker who handles the finances of the others. In this general shrinkage of incomes the farmer is bound to be pinched.

We'll frankly admit our interest. It curtails the advertising revenue of the newspaper.

We claim no high altruistic motives in calling this serious matter to the attention of our readers. If the situation were immediately remedied, and the brakes upon the wheels of industry released, we could not escape sharing the general profit. We, like others, must eat.

We hope that Governor Pierce stirs up a warm discussion of Oregon's tax problems. In the argument some light will be directed on the broader national question. What he does is not of great moment, if he does enough to rouse general interest and crystallize the general opinion. The people who bear the burden have been too long apathetic, and the politicians left to their own guidance have got things into a snarl that will be hard to untangle.



What's in a name? J. C. Penny has insured his life for \$3,000,000.

Kid McCoy, who has married eight times, is bankrupt. Two may live as cheaply as one but nine can't.

Candlesticks make good Christmas gifts. The big heavy kind are better for chasing burglars.

Harding's motto seems to be "Don't give up the ship subsidy."

Women's fur coats have jumped three crying apells higher than they were last Christmas.

Debate was held by radio in Boston which would be a fine way to argue with somebody you can't lick.

We can learn from others. In the Philippines, women are not allowed to hold boxing matches.

The children like skates but they are hard on the seats of their pants.

We swear off on New Year and after that we swear off and on.

In giving a watch you can write "It is your time now" or "Hope you have a good time."

Skeleton of a Baluchisterium has been found in Mongolia. Remember the name in case you meet one.

What will you give father? Get him asbestos gloves to be worn while opening Christmas bills.

Mistaking shaving cream for tooth paste is not as bad as mistaking washing powder for talcum.

First paper money in America was issued in 1690. Some of this has never seen a collection plate.

True sportsmen will not kill more than the law's allowance of game and the others will not either.

A San Francisco baby of 14 months can ask for something in six languages. Wouldn't you hate to marry her when she grows up?

Man has a new substitute for tea and coffee but restaurants have been using one for years and years.

Gone are the days when mince pie had a kick.

With only a few more days of 1922 to play, the score shows the coal dealers have won.

All felt slippers at reduced prices. J. B. Enders & Co. 14-29

Gertrude's Millinery, Blouses, Petticoats. HOLIDAY SALE. Entire Stock of Petticoats and Blouses. 1/2 PRICE.

Personal Mention

Mrs. Ira Ashworth was in town yesterday from Asprovoe shopping and 'visiting with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. McCollum and children were county seat visitors yesterday afternoon from Worden.

C. C. Brower is in Portland this week-end attending to legal matters. He expects to return early next week.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Collier spent yesterday on Caldonia marsh visiting Mr. and Mrs. George Stevenson.

R. W. Tower and sons, Robert and C. J. Tower were in the city from Keno yesterday transacting business with local merchants.

W. Bentley arrived last night from Sacramento on one of his frequent business trips and will spend the week-end here.

Mr. and Mrs. Wood Eberlein were passengers on the morning train bound for San Francisco where they will spend the holidays.

D. E. Loosley, of Portland, is spending a few days here looking after business affairs. He is stopping at the White Pelican hotel.

Mrs. Hans Anderson is spending a few days in the county seat attending to Christmas shopping. Mrs. Anderson resides in Chiloquin.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Geary left this morning in their car for Portland where they will spend the next few months with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nitscheim left on the morning train for California on a four-months' vacation trip. They will make their first stop in San Francisco and from there will go on to Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. George Walton and daughters Katherine and Beatrice, were in town from Merrill last night to attend the high school musical, in which the two girls took a leading part.

Andy McGee, formerly of this city, and Miss Alice Reid, of Ashland, were quietly married Saturday at Jacksonville. McGee is the son of Mrs. William R. Davis of Ashland. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reid of Ashland. McGee is employed as a bookkeeper by the Standard Oil company.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Voge and small son, Joe, were passengers on the morning train bound for Mt.

INTER-SCHOOL GAMES

First of Series to Be Played by Students Here Tonight

The inter-scholastic games among the schools of the county, consisting of Merrill, Bonanza, Agency, and the two Klamath teams, will begin tonight when Merrill, and the Klamath high girls' team No. 1 meets the girls' team of Merrill in the hall on Fourth and Klamath. The game will commence at 7:30, with the girls playing first.

The games tonight promise to be interesting as the boys' teams of the two schools are considered by basketball fans to be about evenly matched, and both teams are determined to bring the cup home from Bonanza, who won the championship of the county last year.

The high school boys' will be picked from the following squad: Clifford Hogue, capt., Vernon Moore, Pete Motschenbacher, Delmar Robertson, Charles Grove, Zed Barnes, Jennings Washington, and Frank Hall.

The girls team will be picked from the following squad: Bertha Peltz, acting capt., Gertrude Moore, Marjiam Wortley, Mary Whiteline, Bonnie Lucas, Zetta Grisez, Kathryn Ulrich, and Dorothy Wortley.

MUSICIANS PLEASE

Entertainment Staged by Miss Applegate Is Well Received

A large and equally pleased audience witnessed the high school musical entertainment last evening at the Pine Tree theatre. Many of the participants showed marked ability and talent. The boys' quartet met with particular favor, as did Berel's junior orchestra.

The high school numbers were filled out with two vocal numbers by Mrs. Marjorie Gallagher, accompanied by Mrs. Don Zumwalt. Both Misses Beatrice and Katherine Walton distinguished themselves with piano and violin solos. The program was concluded with selections by the high school chorus.

The entertainment was staged under the supervision of Miss Evelyn Applegate, who trained both the boys' chorus and the mixed chorus.

The drug store on account of its varied lines is the logical place to do your Xmas shopping. Try the drug store first, Currin Says No. 15

SLED STRIKES AUTO

Young Girls Have Narrow Escape: Taxi Man Issues Warning

Two small girls sledding on Rose street last night crashed into a car driven by E. Wakefield of the Rockard Auto service at the intersection of Rose and Prospect. By a miracle both escaped with minor bruises. The girls were the daughters of the Dalvo and Waite families, living in that neighborhood.

Wakefield said he was driving past the intersection at a moderate speed when the sled struck his car without warning. One girl passed underneath the car and the other came out at the rear. That both were not badly injured, if not killed, Wakefield said, was a miracle.

Wakefield believes that the city should adopt an ordinance either to regulate the hours for sledding or to designate certain streets for that purpose. Sleds dart out unexpectedly and the driver has no opportunity to evade an accident, no matter whether he is driving at five or 15 miles an hour, he said.

"Under present conditions," said he, "it is but a question of time until some child is killed. Then it will be too late for precautions. Personally, I don't want to see the children deprived of their fun, but in justice to all I believe some effort should be made to prevent unnecessary deaths."

A Brunswick Phonograph, The ideal family gift. Currin's For Drugs, 15

FIRE AT CANYON CITY

CANYON CITY, Dec. 15.—Fire threatening the business district of John Day today destroyed a restaurant, lodging house, meat market, and damaged a garage. Firemen then checked the blaze.

Truthful advertising. Square dealing, intelligent service. Currin's For Drugs, 15



The Best Gift on the Tree

In the list of those whom you wish to remember at Christmas time, there is at least one to whom you can give a savings account, and be sure that it would be highly appreciated.

It is a gift that grows in value as time goes on and it shows a sincere interest in the welfare of the one who receives it.

Come in today and arrange for a Christmas savings account at the American National Bank. It will be the best gift on the tree.

The American National Bank



LINCOLN Meat Market Under New Management

E. D. TRULOVE HAVING TAKEN OVER THE LINCOLN MARKET, WILL CONDUCT IT TO SERVE BOTH OLD AND NEW CUSTOMERS.

STANDARD QUALITY MEATS

HAM, BACON AND OTHER CURED MEAT

TWO DELIVERIES DAILY 9 A. M. AND 3 P. M.

Lincoln Meat Market

Corner 3rd and Main

Phone 444

WHO SAID PUMPERNICKLE?

We are now making pumpernickle bread. Have you tried our Vienna Rolls? They are good to the last crumb. 15c per dozen.

SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY

A nice line of layer cakes and other dainties, also your Buster Brown Bread. An Ideal Xmas Gift would be a nice home-made fruit cake from our shop. You can depend these cakes are first class.

Sixth Street Bakery The Home of Better Bread and Better Pastry

"FOR GOODNESS SAKE EAT BETTER BREAD."

Phone 621-W.

Chas. H. Landis