

WHO PAYS THE INCOME TAX?

The federal income returns for the year of 1921 in the State of Oregon show that 62,804 persons made out income tax returns, and of that number 59,054 persons had received incomes less than \$5000 and 3750 individuals had received incomes over \$5000 for that year. The above figures prove conclusively that 94 per cent of the people of the State of Oregon receive less than \$5000 a year. The proposed State Income Tax is directed at the salaried man and woman, and will catch those receiving incomes as low as \$20 a week. If the sponsors of the Income Tax Bill had the interests of the working men and women at heart, why did they so cleverly arrange to catch them in the net? Why did not they provide an exemption for those receiving such a low wage? WHY DID THEY EXEMPT BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, INSURANCE COMPANIES AND CERTAIN REAL ESTATE OPERATORS? This question has been asked those supporting the income tax, and up to date has been unanswered, remaining a gigantic puzzle. Governor Pierce is quoted by an up-state paper as having said that "the merchants should be the first ones to support the State Income Tax, as the consumer ultimately pays the bill." Why should the merchant be alarmed, he can pass the expense on to the consumer by an advance in his prices, thereby eliminating the payment of an Income Tax. The State Income Tax is a new tax designed to collect from Mr. Average Man and Woman, and add an additional burden on their already drooping shoulders. The State Income Tax will favor a few and penalize the Masses.

Income Tax Ruinous to Labor and Industry

An additional income tax, such as the proposed State Income Tax, will serve as a barrier rather than inviting the much desired investor to the confines of our state. No man with capital to invest will look favorably on Oregon as a fertile field to put his money to work. His sound judgment will direct him to a neighboring state, which will take advantage of our stupidity and add another industry to ITS OWN wealth. The state of Washington rejected a state income tax at the last session of its legislature. WASHINGTON realized the folly of such a law, as it would curtail employment of labor and place an unfair disadvantage on home enterprises in competition with neighboring states, which could undersell WASHINGTON on the same manufactured article. Can Oregon afford to penalize its industries and jeopardize the future prospects of its laboring people by the enactment of such an absurd piece of legislation?

Tax Collection Department Would Cost Huge Sum and Provide Soft Jobs for Political Henchmen

The probable cost of collecting the state Income Tax remains an unsolved problem. A tax commission, appointed by the governor, has the power to appoint agents throughout the various districts of the state, and to employ such clerical help that may be necessary to collect said tax. There is no provision in the bill that limits the salaries of the commission, or the salaries of the many employees. Further, the bill does not specify the number of agents, sub-agents, collectors, stenographers, bookkeepers or other miscellaneous help that the tax commission may see fit to place upon the payroll of the state. If the people of the state of Oregon accept such a loosely constructed piece of legislation, and expect a profitable result, they will be cleverly outwitted. The unlimited power placed in the hands of a tax commission will provide soft berths for

Political Henchmen and Favored Office Seekers at the Expense of the Taxpayer

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STATE INCOME TAX REFERENDUM LEAGUE—Cyril G. Brownell, President