Herald and News

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Guest Editorial

(Editor's Note: The following statement was prepared by the Klamath county assessor in connection with the current discussion of the Oregon tax problem).

By NEWT NELSON
Klamath County Assessor

I have been asked many times to make a public statement regarding my opinion of a sales tax in Oregon. I have hesitated to do so, on the grounds that usually such controversial subjects take care of themselves through the force of necessity and by the will of the people.

My only concern in this matter is for the hope that "the will of the people" be guided by the facts, with due consideration of how a sales tax will effect (them) and Oregon as a whole.

I have been almost constantly confronted with the problem of explaining "why such an increase in taxes over the past few years?" In analyzing day after day for so many people in all walks of life, many questions are asked, such as the following, which I will attempt to answer:

Q—Why did my taxes go up?
A—Levy 1943— 72.4 mills
1944— 81.2 mills
1945— 94. mills
1946—115.4 mills

Q—Why such an increase in levy?
A—Largely due to special elections voted by the people.

Q—Why special elections?
A—Increased population.
Increased school census.
Increased cost of operation and maintenance based on increased cost of living.
Budgetary groups held to 6 per cent limitation by law, hence the necessity for special additional levies on real and personal property to carry the additional burden.

Q—Would a sales tax relieve the burden of real and personal property?
A—Yes, but only with a favorable limit on levy and a direct offset to real and personal property for the purpose of supporting schools, other institutions, old age pensions, etc.

Q—Will taxes continue to rise?
A—That's the $64 question. If wages stay up, and if prices adjust themselves accordingly, and if the westward movement continues, which is all good for Oregon and we who live here, then we face a continuation of increased cost of local and state government, and under the present system, and without a sales tax, real and personal property taxes will have to go up accordingly.

Q—Would a revaluation of property solve the problem?
A—No, we have only so much actual value in Oregon or in Klamath county or any other county in the state of Oregon. If the value goes up, with no other change involved, the levy comes down accordingly, resulting in the same amount of tax dollars.

What we need is new additional value, which means new industry. Of course we have a building program under way, but it takes a tremendous amount of building value to offset the loss of timber value which is in demand to support such building program.

A sales tax with a reasonable limit on levy would invite new industry.

A revaluation would only create a nearer approach to equalization, by shifting a greater share of the burden to those areas which have been effected by changes, such as improved and built up business and residential districts, and conversely the actual reduction of value in certain blighted areas, caused by the removal of industry and a general shift of population to greener pastures, the improvement of farm lands, etc. Certainly this should be done and is in the process of being done.

Q—Would a sales tax help the average working man?
A—Yes, I am a working man, and believe me, certainly not above the average and just as much interested as anyone can be in improving my financial condition and yours.

The average working man either owns his own home, or has the desire to do so. A favorable limit on levy would encourage home ownership.

Of course, the difference necessary to carry on would come from the sales tax in which everyone would participate in paying, including the non-property owners, transients and tourists alike.

Facing the facts again, business overhead is and has always been paid by the consumer. Show me one that doesn't operate this way and I'll show you one that's going out of business. A great share of this overhead is taxes.

If taxes can be reduced, commodity prices can be reduced accordingly, which means more dollars in the consumer's pocket.

It is my belief that ultimately, if not immediately, upon the adoption of a sales tax that exemptions on state income tax could justifiably be exempt up to $5000 as a result of additional revenue derived from a sales tax.

Finally, if a bill providing for the things I have mentioned and for better equalization of the tax burden is presented by our legislature, it will help the average working man and I will be in favor of it.

Let's quit looking for "the tax that no one has to pay," and face the facts.

The World Today

By J. ROBERTS JR.
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

WARREN AUSTIN, United States representative on the security council, has made it plain that this country has no intention of bargaining away its atomic secrets. Without the ultimate in safety agreements, disarmament or no disarmament.

His latest statement to the council, coupled with earlier factors pointing in the same direction, makes it appear that disarmament is a dead issue for the time-being, regardless of how much more talk may be expended in an effort to keep it alive.

The Russians have demanded establishment of a disarmament commission with full powers to investigate all armed forces and armaments.

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U. S. Adamant

THE United States is adamant, will not permit this with regard to atomic weapons until air-tight controls have been established, including provisions for unrestricted international inspection and punishment of violators. The U. S. wants the atomic control commission to operate entirely independent, and to be specifically exempt from interference by the disarmament commission.

This factor alone would seem to indicate that, barring an unforeseen concession by the Russians, disarmament must wait until the Baruch plan has been adopted, something which seems no nearer of accomplishment now than when it was first broached months ago.

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German Peace Problem

ORGANIZATION of the police force seems to depend, completely aside from the solution of numerous technical problems which will prove extremely difficult, on what sort of peace with Germany, Austria and Japan is finally submitted for enforcement. The military staff committee will have to know, also, whether the force is to be used to halt the spread of flames from such events as the Spanish civil war. This involves a decision on the amount of interference in internal affairs which the U. N. may attempt, if any. The Russians are demanding that no such interference shall be a cardinal principle.

Not even the fundamentals of these problems have been approached so far. They represent a puzzle which only can be solved step by step, yet in which each step must be taken with relation to another.

This has engendered the feeling among observers at Lake Success that nothing immediate could come of the disarmament discussions. It was realized that some progress might be made by including atomic control as one cornerstone in a general program, but never considered possible that the United States would reveal her atomic strength while there remained the slightest possibility that such revelations could be used against her. Gromyko, in asking for an arms census including atomic weapons, probably had no expectation of success. Just what he did expect is not clear. The next question is whether he has any concessions in his own briefcase with which the discussions can even be kept going.

SIDE GLANCES

"I was impressed by her Mona Lisa expression, too, until I found out that she just hasn't anything to say!"

Raffetto In Scout Office

John A. Raffetto Jr., a former Eagle Scout from St. Paul's Episcopal church Troop 1, has accepted the position of acting field secretary with the Modoc Area council of the Boy Scouts.

Raffetto took over his duties January 15 and has been assigned the Lake county and Pit River districts as his field of activity. He will also do regular field work with the Klamath district, working on a regular schedule in the basin communities.

The status "acting field executive," given Raffetto, will continue until he has attended the national training school for Scout executives. After a six weeks' course there he will be given the title of field executive.

Raffetto was formerly waterfront director for the Scout camp at Crescent lake, and served three years on the camp staff. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon, and was with the U. S. army with long overseas duty. He was graduated from Klamath Union high school in 1938 and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Raffetto, 1948 Portland.

Secret Meets Ruled Out

SALEM, Feb. 12 (AP) — The house assessment and taxation committee made a solemn vow today it wouldn't hold any more secret sessions.

The committee planned a meeting for 4 p. m. yesterday to discuss policy. Invitations were sent to committee members, and the press was not wanted.

Newspapermen found out about it, and 11 of them showed up at the meeting. The meeting was then cancelled.

Each member of the committee declared the secret session wasn't his idea, that it was somebody else's.

The committee said that from now on, when it doesn't want to be quoted, newspapermen will be invited, but such sessions will be off the record.

Planes Join Air Search

McCHORD FIELD, Feb. 12 (AP) The air sea rescue unit at McChord said a B-17 airplane was taking off early this morning to search in the Tiller, Ore., region for the lost coast guard plane lost between Port Angeles and Medford, Ore.

Also two P-47s will be dispatched early today followed by two L-5s if the weather permits lighter planes to take off.

The L-5s are very light craft and will remain in the Tiller region, basing there until the missing craft is found. The other planes will work out of McChord.

HIGH SCHOOL
News Notes and Comment

Tonight at 8 p. m. the re-organized Crater Lake Ski club will meet at the council room in the city hall. Membership is open to interested boys and girls in KU who are also invited to attend tonight's meeting.

Mary O'Brien

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Programs for the annual King of Hearts formal may be obtained in the student's room tomorrow and Friday. Cost of the programs is $1.20 per couple. Reigning king for the affair is Bud Brown and the four knights are Bill Colbert, Irvin Whitt, Milt Thompson and Tom Edwards. Decoration theme of the dance, which will be held in the Masonic temple at 8:30 this Friday evening, will be in keeping with Valentine's Day.

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"Rural Romeo" was the title of the movie shown in the auditorium this noon. The movie was Pep Pepper sponsored and Joanne Albee, social chairman, was in charge of arrangements. Admission charge was 5 cents.

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Speaking at the Parents and Patrons club today, Adviser Charles Woodhouse explained the twofold purpose of radio speech and introduced two of his radio speech students, Jim Kennett and Irma McBride. Besides promoting public relations in KU, the purpose of RASP is to train students in announcing, script writing and other fields of radio activities.

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For tomorrow afternoon the Tea Toilers have scheduled a matinee dance. Attendance at the last matinee dance was compulsory for those students who paid the 10-cent admission fee to their sixth period teachers.

Farmers Union Against Tax Bill

SALEM, Feb. 12 (AP)—Ronald E. Jones, state farmers union president, charged today that sales tax advocates in the legislature "are trying to confuse the situation in order to further their own program."

He advocated the budget be balanced by using the governor's idea to use corporation income tax surpluses.

He said that if the legislature finds it needs more revenue, it can increase income taxes.

Harding Slated To Speak

Ed Harding, "The Tarheel Humorist," will be the next guest speaker before the Knife and Fork club Sunday evening at the Willard hotel.

Harding got into the public speaking business by telling acquaintances how he lost his fertilizer business during the depression. He was so funny while telling it that soon his story was demanded by public groups.

Members are requested to have their reservation cards in the hands of the secretary not later than 6 p. m. Saturday, as a capacity audience is expected to appear to hear the rotund gentleman from North Carolina.

City Delivery Service. Ph. 8417.

COUGHING OF COLDS

Clean, white, pleasant to use and so effective in helping quiet coughing of colds, soothing to sore throat.

PENETRO QUICK ACTING RUB

INSULATE
Your Home . NOW!
Clean, glistening white
ROCKWOOL
WILL NOT DISCOLOR YOUR CEILING.
Our agents carry credentials. If anyone representing himself to be our agent can't furnish these credentials, please call us immediately.

We can now insulate the attic of the average 5-room home, full 4" thickness, for about $80
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STATIC

By KELLY ROBERTS

Did you ever think about all the grief that radio producers go through before a well-finished program comes out your loud speaker? We dropped into the middle of the rehearsal of a local production last night. About thirty persons were milling around the studio and overflowing into the halls, while the harassed director ran wildly around looking for his featured vocalist to do her stint. He finally found her, sprained ankle and all (news has it that she'll do the program on crutches. She sprained it skiing last Sunday) sitting in an office talking to the comic. She got into the studio and made ready to let forth with a song, but no accompanist. Finally the piano player for the studio orchestra was found and dubbed into the spot. They began. The tech behind the panel waved his hand, something wrong with the tone, maybe too high pitched. They started again. The producer listened to her over a monitor while several dozen people around him screamed at the top of their voices trying to be heard. The song ended, he smiled, okeh I guess. The director was trying to time the show so that it'd run its full 29 mins. 30 secs., no more no less. The Swedish dialect comic comes to the mike for his part, says a few words "I forgot my script." The director groans, should he plan on two, three, or four minutes for the comic, oh well, figure for the maximum and be prepared for any eventuality. Another character finishes his last line in the script, from which the orchestra is supposed to pick up, what happens? Dead silence. The orch members look at each other, who's supposed to give the beat and cue. Finally a guy is picked out, and the character runs over his line again, this time the orch starts okeh. Will they do it in the actual show though, the director wonders. This goes on and on. Forty-eight hours of writing, rehearsal, rewriting, re-rehearsal go into the making of the half-hour show. Will it turn out okeh? nobody knows until it's all over. That's why producers age fast. If it doesn't, they'll know about it in tomorrow's "Static."

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KFLW's "Stardust Melodeer," Chuck Cecil, now has a band of his own. Along with three other fellows Chuck is sponsoring the outfit and appearing with it. They'll be heard in their first appearance at the Merrill hall next Saturday evening.

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Bing comes on at 9 tonight followed by Henry, don't forget them. No, not the Gold-dust, but the Bingsday night twins, Crosby and Morgan. Bing has as his special guest the master of the "retort, sharp" Groucho Marx.

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One of the checkroom girls at a local inn out-Heddas Hopper when it comes to hats. We were admiring a little black, powder-puff thing that she was wearing last night and told her that we'd never seen her in the same hat twice, nor any of them ever unbecoming.

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Frank Hemingway, the multi-voiced news-spieler, has joined the KFLW-ABC ranks. Frank was heard in the first of his new series of 'casts yesterday. He'll be heard each weekday at 5:45 p.m.

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Today's nominee for "Little Man of the Week" is the guy who got so mad at one of the city's new parking meters that he just couldn't restrain himself. Meter parts were scattered for yards around by the time he had vented his spleen. After all, the human mind can stand only so much, dontchaknow.

RADIO PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY EVE., FEB. 12

* KFLW Feature	* KFJI Feature
6:00 Sports Lineup*	Gabriel Heatter MBS
6:15 Home Town News*	Quiz Show*
6:25 World News Summary*	" "
6:30 Pot of Gold ABC	Around Town*
6:45 " "	San Quentin MBS
7:00 Klamath Theatre Guide*	Lincoln Day Speeches MBS
7:15 Managing Editors Report*	" "
7:30 Music of Manhattan*	Cisco Kid MBS
7:45 Music by Adlam ABC	" "
8:00 Lum 'N Abner ABC	What's Name of Song MBS
8:15 Skip Farrell Show ABC	" "
8:30 Willie Piper ABC	Ralph Ginsberg*
8:45 " "	Navy Transcription*
9:00 Bing Crosby ABC	Glenn Hardy, News MBS
9:15 " "	Mel Ventner's Pict. MBS
9:30 Henry Morgan ABC	Let's Dance*
9:45 " "	Here's to Veterans*
10:00 Stardust Melodies*	News & Concert Hall*
10:30 Freddy Martin Orch. ABC	Music As You Like It*
11:00 Night News Summary*	Orrin Tucker Orch. MBS
11:05 Sign Off	" "
11:15	Art Kassel Orch. MBS
11:30	News MBS
11:45	

THURSDAY A. M., FEB. 13

6:15 Klamath Theatre Guide*	Musical Reveille*
6:30 " "	" "
6:45 Farm Fare*	F. Hemingway, News MBS
7:00 News, Breakfast Edition*	Rise and Shine MBS
7:15 Stop and Go Show*	Headline News*
7:30 James Abbe Observes ABC	Best Buys*
7:45 Zeke Manners ABC	Favorites of Yesterday*
8:00 Breakfast Club ABC	Fashion Flashes*
8:15 " "	A.Prescott-Wife Saver MBS
8:30 " "	Victor H. Lindlahr MBS
8:45 " "	Art Baker's Notebook*
9:00 Kenny Baker Show ABC	Jackie Hill Show MBS
9:15 " "	Morning Matinee*
9:30 Breakfast in Hollywood ABC	Sons of the Pioneers*
9:45 " "	Glenn Hardy, News MBS
10:00 Galen Drake ABC	Hawaiian*
10:15 Sammy Kaye Orch.*	Merv Griffin Show MBS
10:30 My True Story ABC	Lee Erdody*
10:45 " "	" "
10:55 Miniature Concert*	Artie Shaw Orch.*
11:00 Stop and Shop*	Smile Time MBS
11:15 Come and Get It*	Queen for a Day MBS
11:30 The Listening Post ABC	" "
11:45 Ethel and Albert ABC	
* KFLW Feature	* KFJI Feature

THURSDAY P. M., FEB. 13

KFLW—1450 kc.	KFJI—1240 kc.
12:00 News, Noon Edition*	Melodious Melodies*
12:15 Dial Fun*	News*
12:30 Gem Session*	Your Dance Tunes*
12:45 Music in March Time*	Farm Front and Market*
1:00 Tommy Bartlett Show ABC	Check'board Jamboree MBS
1:15 " "	Johnson Family MBS
1:30 Baptist Bible Program*	Matinee*
1:45 Merrill Time*	News*
2:00 What's Doin' Ladies ABC	Park's Tele-quiz*
2:15 " "	Bill Gwynne Show MBS
2:25 Spotlight on Hollyw'd ABC	" "
2:30 Bride and Groom ABC	Ricky's Request*
2:00 Ladies Be Seated ABC	Haven of Rest*
2:30 Salon Strings*	Tea Dance*
3:45 " "	Organ Music*
3:50 " "	Living With God*
4:00 Requestfully Yours*	Fulton Lewis Jr. MBS
4:15 Requestfully Yours*	Rex Miller, News MBS
4:30 " "	Paul Robison Sings*
4:45 Tennessee Jed ABC	Buck Rogers MBS
5:00 Terry and the Pirates ABC	F. Hemingway, News MBS
5:15 Sky King ABC	Superman MBS
5:30 Jack Armstrong ABC	Captain Midnight MBS
5:45 Frank Hemingway ABC	Tom Mix MBS

THURSDAY EVE., FEB. 13

6:00 Sports Lineup*	Gabriel Heatter MBS
6:15 Home Town News*	Quiz Show*
6:25 World News Summary*	" "
6:30 Klamath Theatre Guide*	Around Town*
6:45 Conservation Program*	Klamath Sport Album*
7:00 The Three Suns*	Family Theatre MBS
7:15 Managing Editor's Report*	" "
7:30 Proudly We Hail*	Red Ryder MBS
7:45 Music of Manhattan*	" "
8:00 Lum 'N Abner ABC	Weird Circle*
8:15 Stand By For Advcn.*	" "
8:30 The Tune, Play, Girl ABC	San Quentin MBS
9:00 World Sec. Workshop ABC	Glenn Hardy, News MBS
9:15 " "	James Crowley, News MBS
9:30 Ciro's Restaur. Orch. ABC	Wrestling*
9:45 " "	" "
10:00 Stardust Melodies*	" "
10:30 Freddy Martin Orch. ABC	Music As You Like It*
11:00 Night News Summary*	Orrin Tucker Orch. MBS
11:05 Sign Off	" "
11:15	Dick Stabile Orch. MBS
11:30	Art Kassel Orch. MBS
11:45	News MBS
* KFLW Feature	

Lemon Juice Recipe Checks Rheumatic Pain Quickly

If you suffer from rheumatic, arthritis or neuritis pain, try this simple inexpensive home recipe that thousands are using. Get a package of Ru-Ex Compound, a two-week supply, today. Mix it with a quart of water, add the juice of 4 lemons. It's easy. No trouble at all and pleasant. You need only 3 tablespoonfuls two times a day. Often within 48 hours—sometimes overnight—splendid results are obtained. If the pains do not quickly leave and if you do not feel better, return the empty package and Ru-Ex will cost you nothing to try as it is sold by your druggist under an absolute money-back guarantee. Ru-Ex Compound is for sale and recommended by drug stores everywhere.

A Message from California-Pacific Utilities Company

CONCERNING THE COST OF GAS

To Our Customers:

Everyone knows that the cost of doing business has increased tremendously in the last few years. Wages have been increased. Taxes are higher. All materials and supplies cost more. Our company, like all others, has had to pay these higher costs.

It is a well known fact that other gas companies in the Pacific Northwest, up against similar conditions, have already raised their rates.

Up to now we have refrained from seeking any rate increase, hoping that the corner would be turned. On the contrary, since last July our expenses have risen still more sharply—to the point where it is now costing us considerably more to do business than we are taking in.

Finally, to our great regret, this condition has forced us to apply to the Public Utilities Commissioner of the State of Oregon for an increase in gas rates. Here are the facts in the case:

Our Costs Jump 41%

Last July we were forced to change our source of fuel supply, and to shift from straight butane to propane or a mixture of butane and propane. The new supply source requires a longer freight haul, and the change in type of fuel necessitates consuming more propane-butane to deliver the same number of heat units to our customers.

These unavoidable changes, together with a general increase in freight rates effective January 2, 1947, have increased our cost of fuel delivered in southern Oregon an average of 41 per cent.

New Equipment Required

Propane or propane-butane mixture must be held under greater pressure than straight butane. Change in type of fuel made it necessary for us to install new fuel storage tanks. In making these additions, and in general expansion and improvements, we spent $123,640 in southern Oregon in 1946. An even greater sum would have been spent had it not been for shortage of materials and labor.

For new fuel storage tanks and other additions and betterments, our budget for 1947 is $180,000.

Wages Are Higher

Basic wage rates were increased an average of 10 per cent in 1946, and an additional increase is contemplated for 1947.

Average earnings of operating employees, including overtime pay, were 108 per cent higher in 1946 than in 1941. As in other businesses, this increase has been necessary to enable employes to meet higher living costs, and otherwise to conform with current employment conditions.

In addition, since 1941 we have installed a retirement pension plan for employes, increased their life insurance protection, started a health and accident insurance program, and later increased the benefits under this program.

Minimum Rate Increase Requested

Slowly but surely, our margin of profit was being narrowed and squeezed by rising costs since 1941. Since mid-1946, the perpendicular increase in costs wiped out our profit margin altogether and created a deficit. This condition must be corrected.

The proposed rate increase will not be a financial burden to any gas consumer. The amount of the increase will, of course, vary according to the amount of gas used, costing some customers more than others, but the average increase to residential users will amount to only about $1.21 a month—just about 4c a day.

Right now the average cost per unit for residential gas in this territory is 8 per cent lower than in 1940. After the increase, it will be 10 per cent higher. Against this rate of increase, cord wood has gone up 77 per cent, fuel oil 43 per cent, and coal 13 per cent.

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As every consumer knows, gas is a comfort and a convenience. It is also a necessity. Above all else, the standard of service must be maintained.

The reader will notice that we do not propose to meet higher operating costs by allowing service to deteriorate. On the contrary, we are planning new and larger investments in plant and facilities, looking to an even higher standard of service to all gas customers.

J. A. WARD, *President*

CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC UTILITIES COMPANY