

Vernonia Eagle



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RAY D. FISHER, Editor and Publisher

A WISE ACT

Action of the county court Tuesday in adopting the county budget substantially as drawn up by the budget committee was wise, despite criticisms of certain parts of it expressed at the hearing Saturday. The work of the committee was thorough. They investigated carefully, heard the presentation of both sides of every question upon which there was division of popular opinion, and arrived at their conclusion only after mature deliberation. The budget deserved unanimous endorsement, and the fact that there were a certain number of malcontents disgruntled because their own pet economies were adopted in part but not in full is merely an indication of their own narrow point of view.

To draw up a budget of the size required for the county is no slight task. Indeed it is no disparagement of the ordinary citizen to say that he is not qualified for so big a job, unrelated to his every day life and for which he has no background. A man who could keep the account of his year's expenditures adequately in a pocket memorandum naturally is bewildered when confronted with column upon column of figures that only a trained accountant or executive can grasp.

The deserved praise which Judd Greenman received as a member of the committee arises not only from his inherent ability, but also from the fact that as general superintendent of a large company he is accustomed to handling big financial enterprises. He gave the impression of knowing what it was all about because he was at home in operations of similar size. Most of us cannot talk in terms of tens and hundreds of thousands of dollars. We lack experience.

Unfortunately there are people who, in their failure to grasp a problem as a whole, seize upon some few items that they believe to be within their comprehension, and magnify them from molehills to mountains. The relatively unimportant becomes the tremendous issue, the dividing line between delinquency and full payment, between bankruptcy and solvency. Hence it was that men wasted hours and oratory, gas, tires and nervous energy in a vigorous campaign against the county agent, the county nurse, the home demonstration agent and the roadmaster. These offices, which to them seemed useless, were symbols of the burden of heavy taxes. To them it was an issue of reduction or no reduction. There was no hope as long as the offices were retained, and at least a glimmer of light over the hills if they were abolished. The fact that unquestionably some and perhaps all of these offices were paying their own way, and the saving from abolishment would be nil, had no weight.

The budget committee and the county court took a broader, more comprehensive view. They listened not only to the farmer who had never made use of the county agent and saw no reason why anybody should, but also to those who knew by experience his value. They took into consideration the fact that the man with a fancied grievance is always on hand to express it, while the man who is satisfied is altogether too likely to stay at home and assume that things will go on as before.

The county court, like the budget committee, deserves hearty commendations.

PETITION TO THE TAX COMMISSION

The petition filed with the state tax commission asking it to set aside the levy voted Monday in Vernonia leaves the outcome of the budget question to be decided by the commission itself, and any forecasting as to the

probable result would of course be futile.

However it may be stated merely as fact that the tax commission is not a judicial body. It does not interpret the law, but acts upon the interpretation furnished to it by the attorney general. It can raise or lower assessments upon investigation, and in exercising its authority it will no doubt treat Vernonia fairly and squarely.

If opinion is permissible at all, this newspaper doubts if the disputed points as to the legal questions involved will carry any weight with the commission, for such points are within the jurisdiction of the courts, which alone attempt to pass upon them. Unless some of the objections raised by Judge Harris have to do with definite and known procedure, it is not likely that they will affect the decision. Clearly, Attorney Dillard has taken the opposite view with regard to most if not all of these, and where competent attorneys disagree the tax commission does not decide.

Journal Sketches Judge's Career

County Judge J. H. Wellington was the subject of a biographical sketch in the Oregon Journal of December 19. Following is the sketch, written by "F. L." and appearing under the heading, "Oregon Folks."

"John H. Wellington is county judge of Columbia county. He was born at Salford, England, February 1, 1871. When he was 10 years old he went to work in a cotton mill, being paid 3 shillings per week. He came to St. Helens 40 years ago. He married Mary T. Kendall at St. Helens in 1900. When Mr. Wellington was still in his early teens he found that working in a cotton mill 12 hours a day wasn't exactly to his liking, so he shipped as a cabin boy on a bark bound for Boston. From there he shipped to Scotland, later making a trip to Philadelphia. From there he shipped on the famous old clipper ship Tillie E. Starbuck, bound for Portland, Ore. He arrived in Portland in January, 1891, and liked the climate and the country here, so he went to work in the rock quarry at St. Helens. When this country declared war against Spain he enlisted in the navy and was assigned to the flagship Philadelphia. He was a member of a landing party at Samoa and was wounded. After receiving his discharge from the navy he was engaged in business at Clatskanie and later at St. Helens. When our country entered the World war Judge Wellington sold his store at St. Helens and enlisted in the navy, being assigned to the Philadelphia, on which he had seen service during the Spanish American war. He served as a warrant officer on a sub-chaser doing patrol duty on the Atlantic. When he was mustered out after the armistice he returned to St. Helens, was elected sheriff, and served two terms. His friends in the American Legion urged him to run for county judge. He ran and was elected. He is an active member of the American Legion and is past commander of Columbia post of St. Helens."

The closing of a Portland bank last week is a reminder of the few casualties in western Oregon banks during the upset of the past two years. It is also a reminder of the vast difference between the financial crisis through which the nation is passing and those of former years, when banks toppled like houses of cards and business difficulties were thus made worse. In sharp distinction we find banks today functioning as usual, a situation which not only reflects credit on their management, but also on the sound sense of their customers. As to the latter, there is a better understanding of the function of a bank than there once was. It is now pretty generally understood that it is the business of a bank to loan borrowers a part of the money entrusted to it by depositors. When the financial tide runs smoothly these loans are repaid when due and if not paid collateral deposited to secure them can be realized upon. But the tide of business has not been smooth and securities can not be as easily realized upon as in normal times nor is it always possible for the customer to pay the note when due. The bank is protected partly by its reserve, but it goes without saying that if everybody simultaneously demanded their money even the strongest bank might have difficulty in meeting the demand, and this in spite of the fact that it is perfectly sound. The difficulty of the Portland bank appears to be that it was solvent, but could not realize on its securities.

Clothing Altered
ST. HELENS—Clothing renovation and pattern alteration constitute a continuous clothing program in the home economics extension units of Columbia county. Twenty-seven made-over dresses and four children's remodeled garments were reported on at four meetings held recently. These clothing projects are directed by Mrs. Sarah V. Case, home demonstration agent.

For real bargains—watch the classified columns of the Eagle.

What Other Editors . . . Think . . .

Oregon, having involved the world in a deluge of publicity about that abused and odoriferous whale, should find grim pleasure in the investment of tax money in the sometimes grandstanding public officials have made in futile prosecution of the killers.

—Clark County (Wash.) Sun

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—Hillsboro Independent.

WAS IT MERCY?

Poor Tusko, Portland's eight-ton "white" elephant, is apparently doomed by his quite human failing of becoming tired of the humdrum routine of an orderly and cramped existence, and expressing his resentment by smashing things up. The brain that could release heavy iron shackles by patiently unscrewing the nuts that bolt them to the elephantine legs, is quite capable of a sud-

Among Our Neighbors . .

A recreation hall and reading room is being fitted up in St. Helens for use of the men in the McCormick mill who are at present out of employment. The building has been loaned to the men by H. L. Hudson, manager of the mill.

The St. Helens high school basketball team opened its season December 23 by defeating Westport 36 to 26.

The record of hearing ten jury cases in a 12 day term of court had been established by Judge Howard K. Zimmerman in the December session in St. Helens which closed December 19.

Tom Matthews was installed as worshipful master of the St. Helens Masonic lodge Dec. 22 and Edith Johnson worthy matron of Mizpah chapter, O. E. S.

Glen R. Metsker of St. Helens, was called to Douglas, Kan., Dec. 18 by the death of his father, Louis A. Metsker.

Fred J. Patten of Rainier, Mrs. Carrie Kind of Delena, Miss Buneva Culbertson of Scappoose, County Superintendent Elizabeth C. Murray of St. Helens were, together with E. H. Condit of this city, delegates to the Oregon State Teachers' association convention in Portland from Monday.

den and errible ennui against existence in a cold, dark, drafty shack; occasional hangovers from a tub of bad moonshine; and the constant thrall of heavy fetters. Mayor George Baker saved Tusko's life yesterday but we doubt if Tusko has anything to be thankful for. Life is life, and the thrust of instinct drives us towards its preservation, but a dark little shed and chains are not the succulent fastnesses of the deep jungle; the pools and streams; the mighty arched trees, nor the warm life-giving sun of Tusko's natural habitat. Perhaps the rain of deadening lead would have been more merciful.

—Astorian-Budget.

FOR
HAY GRAIN FEED
PHONE 681
Vernonia Trading Co.
Agency for
McCormick-Deering
TRACTORS

\$5.00
Complete
RINGLETTE PERMANENT
Assures your being immaculate after a few strokes of the comb for it is set deep, wide and permanent by a process of steaming from the inside out, instead of being forced in under heat pressure.
Milady's Beauty Shoppe
Vernonia Hotel Building
Phone 1261

day to Wednesday of this week.

Mrs. Julia Schmier, 87, a resident of Rainier since 1892, died from dropsy Dec. 17.

Longview high school defeated Rainier 20 to 10 in a basketball game Dec. 22.

The Tillamook county budget was adopted Dec. 22 with very slight changes. Among the items is an appropriation of \$177,000 for a new court house.

Camp Eight

Camp was shut down for a short vacation beginning on December 23 but resumed operations again on this last Monday. Nearly all the families took advantage of the short vacation to visit friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hanna and daughter Dorothy Lee were Vernonia visitors at the home of Charlie Hanna during the shut down.

Mrs. Norman Guinn and two small children are visiting in Portland.

Mrs. Charles Lewis is still in Portland under a doctor's care but is reported to be improving.

Mrs. Jack Hall returned home Thursday from Portland where she has been seriously ill but is on the road to recovery. Mrs. Hall has been gone nearly two months.

Recipient of the sad news on Christmas morning that his father had passed away John Atkins and family immediately left for Portland where he planned to travel by plane in order to reach San Francisco in time for the funeral.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Pringle spent the holidays with the former's parents at Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Olson and daughter Betty Jean divided their vacation between Battle-ground, Wash., and St. Helens. Mrs. Olson's parents live in Washington and Mr. Olson's at St. Helens.

At the Hatfield home for Sunday dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Ira Rollins and family of Ver-

nonia, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mackie and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hanna.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Lizenby and family were dinner guests at the Olson home on Sunday evening.

Miss Evelyn Olson of St. Helens is a guest this week at the S. R. Olson home.

Chet Evereart visited with his parents at Chapman during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Rollins, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Lizenby of Vernonia and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Olson, Miss Evelyn Olson and Chet Evereart of Camp attended a barn dance at Vernonia on last Saturday night.

Little Charles Mitchell is visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Mitchell. Charles is staying with his grandmother in Washington this year and attending school there.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wridge and family and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Miers and family of Vernonia were visitors at the Olson home on Monday evening.

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

My opponents tell me that I am a dreamer. I am. No man has ever done anything without first of all dreaming about it. We dream of things and then if we are men of action we set about realizing our dreams in our waking moments.

—Ramsay MacDonald.

Watch the classified section and see for yourself the many opportunities listed there. Read it every week.

PEARLOIL Heating

NOW CHEAPER THAN
EVER TO ENJOY

Always a bigger dollar's worth of winter warmth—re-refined Pearl Oil—now available everywhere in the new re-refillable can—is more of an economy than ever!

Buy Pearl Oil for cozy heat—wherever you set your kerosene heater—all winter long. Buy it five gallons at a time. When the can is empty—return it to your dealer for repeated refills at bulk prices.

Get more for your money with clean-burning Pearl Oil—finest quality kerosene. Remember that even in the best heaters, it's the oil that supplies the heat. "Coal oil" or "kerosene" may mean any kind of kerosene.

—SAY TO YOUR DEALER

"Pearl Oil"

DEALERS
SAFeway STORES
VERNONIA MARKET
R. A. SIMMONS
HOME GROCERY
RIVERVIEW
SERVICE STATION
VERNONIA BRAZING &
MACHINE WORKS
NEHALEM MARKET

Professional and Business Directory

For your convenience the following business and professional people are listed on this page alphabetically. These men and women are known in Vernonia as reliable business and professional people.

BARBER SHOPS

Joy Barber Shop
Haircutting for Men
Women and Children
Expert Work Guaranteed

CARD ROOM

PASTIME
CARDS AND
LIGHT LUNCHES
Lloyd Baker, Prop.

CONTRACTORS

JOHN A. MILLER
General Contractor
Mason Work, Building

BAFFORD BROS.
General Plumbing
Vernonia

C. BRUCE
Wholesale and Retail
LUMBER
Vernonia, Oregon

DENTISTS

M. D. COLE
Dentist
Vernonia, Oregon

DOCTORS

Marvin R. Eby, M. D.
Physician and Surgeon
Phone Hospital 931
Town Office 891

DR. J. A. HUGHES
Physician and Surgeon
Office Phone 663 Vernonia,
Res. Phone 664 Oregon

RESTAURANTS

Mary Kato
Chop Suey Restaurant
OPEN FRIDAY, SAT-
URDAY AND SUNDAY
729 THIRD STREET

GLENN E. DEAMER

Complete
RADIO SERVICE
Parts for all radios either
in stock or manufactured to
order.
House 18, O-A Hill
Residence Phone 1061

Willard Batteries
VIOLET RAY GASOLINE
Oils . . . Expert Greasing
VERNONIA SERVICE STATION

TRANSFER — TRUCK
CURLY'S TRANSFER
Phone Business 221
Residence 653
Local and Long Dis-
tance Hauling

CASON TRANSFER
Local & long distance
HAULING
Phone 923
Office in
Workingmen's Store

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Worth keeping, and easy to keep, too . . .
Buy Mother's Bread, Mother's Cakes, Mother's
Cookies and other delicacies . . . Made in Ver-
nonia . . . And keep Vernonia money at home.

Vernonia Bakery

HOTEL MULTNOMAH

When in Portland stop at "The Multnomah."

- More for your money at surprising economy.
- Rates from \$2.00 with Bath.
- Popular priced restaurants.
- New lobby, new furnishings, new service, and new many-other-things.
- Absolutely FIREPROOF.

PORTLAND, OREGON